

Abergavenny

Placemaking Plan Consultation Full Report

May 2025



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1. Key Messages from the Consultation

Draft Vision

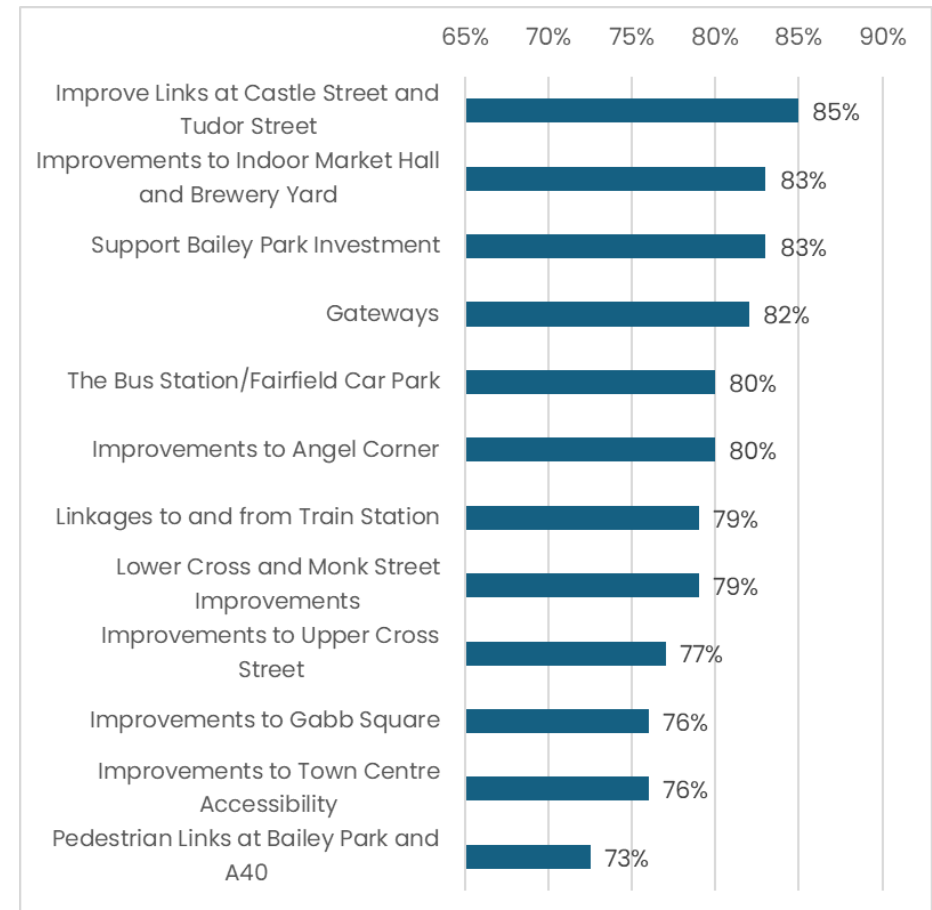
- **Level of support:** The Vision received good support with 71% of respondents agreeing (combining “totally agree or agree”) while 10% disagreeing and 18% remaining neutral.
- **Key feedback messages:** Some respondents have commented on the need to not focus on the events focus of the town but its broader offer. Some specific comments have centred on the need to address environmental sustainability.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** The need to recognise the broader day to day offer of the town and for sustainability to be a cross-cutting theme.

6 Goals

- **Level of support:** The six goals were strongly supported with 80% either totally agreeing or agreeing with them all.
- **Key feedback messages:** Some greater clarity on what is meant by a 21st Century Market town is mentioned in comments.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** None arising.

The Proposals

Figure 1 – Ranking of Proposals by Levels of Agreement



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Gateways

- **Level of support:** Strong level of support with 82% agreeing with the need to improve first impressions into the town centre from all approaches, that involves a mixture of signage, trees, landscaping and presenting the town's identity. Only 6% disagree with the proposals.
- **Key feedback messages:** Main areas of discussion range from lack of current maintenance and to address basics first, to enhance and present the town's identity, specifically on Monmouth Road and from Llanfoist. This includes to implement improvements to accessibility standards on footways and at road junctions.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** To identify quick wins that address maintenance and simple measures to announce the town alongside accessibility audits and future route improvements.

The Bus Station/Fairfield Car Park

- **Level of support:** Strong levels of support with 80% agreeing with the need to improve the general appearance of the bus station and Fairfield car park areas.
- **Key feedback messages:** There is a real lack of greenery within the central area of the bus station with accessibility experience between the bus stands and the car park convoluted and undefined. The need to include

Swan Meadows within this area also needs consideration in relation to play and linkages. Fairfield car park lacks landscaping and also legible pedestrian routes.

- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** Comments support proposals with the need to include Swan Meadows area within improvements.

Improve Links at Castle Street and Tudor Street

- **Level of support:** Strong levels of support with 85% agreeing with the need to improve links between these respective car parks and the inner town centre and to enhance the Royal Mail site. 3% disagree with the proposals.
- **Key feedback messages:** The relationship of the Royal Mail building within the town centre is subject to many comments. This includes façade improvements, albeit people want to see the site redeveloped for complementary uses. The design of new buildings such as the proposed mini-hub needs to work with the character of the town and link into a design brief for the sorting office. Proper consideration on accessibility standards across Castle Street and Tudor Street is identified, with the present arrangement perceived as below standard.

- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** For Monmouthshire County Council to work with the Royal Mail on a design brief for the sorting office site which ties in other developments. To consider specific needs of shopmobility in terms of parking and access.

Pedestrian Links at Bailey Park and A40

- **Level of support:** 73% of responses generally agree with this proposal, however this has the lowest ranking amongst the suite of wider proposals.
- **Key feedback messages:** Whilst people agree that the current pedestrian route does not follow the desire line towards the Market Hall tower, there are some reservations as to whether highway works would cause more problems with current traffic flows at Morrisons and Hereford Road traffic lights. Nevertheless, there is a need to review how the whole junction area operates and the opportunity to re-enforce linkages.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** The proposal is not ranked as a high priority but there could be some simple ways to re-enforce routes into the town centre that are safe and cost-effective.

Linkages to and from Train Station

- **Level of support:** Whilst not core to the town centre, the importance of the train station to Abergavenny is recognised by most respondents with 79% agreeing with

the need to improve links to and from the town centre. 7% disagree with the proposals.

- **Key feedback messages:** The need to improve the welcome outside the station frontage needs continued investment, post footbridge improvements with additional parking, taxi information/rank and clear waymarking to the town centre. A number of routes are identified that either direct you to Monmouth Road or through the quieter Holywell Road link. Better signage, wider pavements and maintenance of landscaping is suggested. There is almost unanimous support for a hoppla bus service that links the train station with the town centre that also connects it to other key destinations and community assets in the town centre.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** Feedback generally supports the objective of providing clearer and more accessible links to and from the train station. Some simple, quick fixes are suggested.

Lower Cross Street and Monk Street Improvements

- **Level of support:** 80% of respondents strongly agree with the need to improve the experience within Lower Cross Street and Monk Street, with 11% of people indifferent and only 5% disagreeing.
- **Key feedback messages:** An over-riding message is to address pavement parking, through a co-ordinated

approach with residents and local businesses that looks to off-street provision. The need to address buildings, public realm and carriageway is welcomed by most with this part of the town centre feeling “unloved”.

- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** Comments amplify the need for a co-ordinated plan that links gateways, footways, public realm, parking/servicing provision and ways to introduce greenery.

Improvements to Angel Corner

- **Level of support:** There is a good level of support to improve The Angel Corner with 80% agreeing with the need to make improvements, 9% indifferent and 6% disagreeing.
- **Key feedback messages:** A strategic case for de-trunking the A40 and re-routing HGVs and through traffic onto the A465 and A4143 is made by respondents which will then lead to greater levels of improvements for pedestrian and town centre users at this corner. Comments also range from accessibility details, timings on the existing pelican crossings as well as choice of materials. How this corner leads into Lower Castle Street and presents a priority to pedestrians is also raised.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** To provide some strategic objectives on the wider road network

and ways to turn off through traffic through this area of the town centre.

Improvements to Upper Cross Street

- **Level of support:** 77% of respondents either totally agree or agree with these proposals, with 10% indifferent and 8% disagreeing.
- **Key feedback messages:** The need to improve this area of the town centre is overwhelmingly supported with degrees of improvement suggested. This ranges from full pedestrianisation across the whole week to maintaining the 10am to 4pm closure and to also extend the improvements through the upper section of Market Street so visitors are drawn further. Whilst respondents have valued the presence of the cabin structures, most agree they are past their shelf life, and that new outdoor seating and shelter needs considering. Specific comments on materials, use of colour, play and the means of closure are also suggested.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** Extension of improvements into upper Market Street including signage needs to be included. Consideration on ways to implement some physical improvements whilst not impacting on future, larger scale capital investments.

Improvements to Indoor Market Hall and Brewery Yard

- **Level of support:** The second highest ranked proposal has the agreement of 83% of respondents with only 3% disagreeing and 13% indifferent.
- **Key feedback messages:** There is an overwhelming love for the market hall and its immediate space, with respondents asking to respect its heritage yet also finding ways to broaden its appeal through its range of events, markets and activities. Variety across the week and into the evenings is mentioned, alongside improvements that respect the internal space yet addresses accessibility, lighting, event management and curation of the market experience. The role of young people is mentioned as an opportunity to explore further.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** Further detail on proposals that respects its character yet takes it forward in terms of its operation, small infrastructure improvements, broadens its appeal and use and how young people can engage in enterprise and activity.

Support Bailey Park Investment

- **Level of support:** 50% strongly agree with the need to support Bailey Park improvements with 33% agreeing, 13% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 3% disagree.

- **Key feedback messages:** The feedback centres on park management and maintenance, provision for young people and families and the recent campaign to bring back the outdoor lido. Improvements to side entrances into the Park are also suggested.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** More details on how to improve the park for young people and also support for the Friends of Bailey Park group is identified. Safe space for young people to hang out and participate in sports and activities is mentioned.

Improvements to Gabb Square

- **Level of support:** 44% strongly agree with the need to make improvements to Gabb Square with 32% agreeing, 18% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 4% disagree.
- **Key feedback messages:** Whilst there is consensus that the space needs to fulfil its potential and could complement a number of neighbouring businesses including the cinema (subject to closure at the time of writing this report and a potential community buy-out), there are some questions around prioritisation and value for money. Specific comments on material, greenery, maintenance, carriageway treatment and who would run activities within the space are made.

Relationship to other sites and opportunities such as the former Richards building is also identified.

- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** The recent news on the cinema's future needs to be considered as part of the plan that could support its future viability.

Improvements to Town Centre Accessibility

- **Level of support:** 44% strongly agree with the need to make improvements to town centre accessibility with 32% agreeing, 18% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 4% disagree.
- **Key feedback messages:** The introduction of a changing places facility is welcomed with its location and association to shop-mobility discussed within responses. Accessibility audits that are actionable and don't need significant investments is highlighted. Water refill points, bike hire/stands/shelters are mentioned as well as seating and benches that are accessible to all.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** Comments support placemaking plan proposals with no significant new ideas.

Improving how the town centre is managed and maintained

- **Level of support:** The greatest degree of agreement centres on targeting vacant properties for **improvement** with 92% agreeing (totally agree and agree) with this proposal. Following in second place, the need to ensure

town centre organisations continue to work together on events, festivals, marketing etc is seen as important by respondents (89% agree), with building on digital and smart technology seen less important across these measures, albeit 72% either definitely or somewhat agree with the latter proposal.

- **Key feedback messages:** The state of some prominent buildings in the town centre that have been empty for some time or do not positively contribute to the street scene is identified.
- **Implications for the placemaking plan:** As already identified, plan needs to highlight areas for property improvements that complement other place-making plan activities.

3 Most Important

When respondents were asked to choose their top three priorities for the town centre these are i) targeting vacant properties ii) an improved, safer pedestrian space at the Angel corner and iii) better routes between the town centre and train station are identified

What's missing

1. A number of areas have been emerged:
 - Public transport
 - Infrastructure
 - Parking

- Rerouting of A40
- Supporting small businesses
- Young people
- Other community provision
- Housing
- Climate change

2. Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this document is to report on the consultation on the Abergavenny Placemaking Plan held between the 4th April and the 5th May 2025.

The consultation process was designed to gather views from residents, businesses, and others interested in the future of Abergavenny on the vision and interventions for Abergavenny town centre proposed to be included in the Abergavenny Placemaking Plan.

The report contains:

- Information about the consultation process
- Collated feedback received
- Analysis of the feedback received

The feedback gathered through the consultation will inform the final Abergavenny Placemaking Plan, to be produced in summer 2025.

It specifically presents analysis of both face to face consultation and also digital feedback received. Comments by email are found within the appendices to this report.

3. How People Had Their Say

Outline format for consultation

Opportunities for community consultation included the following:

- The local community was signposted to Monmouthshire's Let's Talk website and engagement where they could register and find out more information on the Placemaking Plan process;
- Two days of face to face community drop in sessions were held at the former Timothy Oulton store, Mill Street, Abergavenny which involved:
 - A physical display that presented background, key issues and analysis, a draft vision and a series of draft proposals;
 - Opportunities for the local community to identify other issues and ideas;
 - Completion of a paper copy of the community feedback survey or provided with an A6 postcard with survey link.
- After the two day consultation, the graphics were displayed in the shop window for a period of 3 weeks allowing passers-by to read and be signposted to the online survey;
- Ability to download and view the proposals through Monmouthshire County Council's Let's Talk website and to provide feedback through an online survey;
- Obtain paper copies either at the community drop in sessions or from the Community Hub on Cross Street with completed copies returned to these offices or to the Town Council's offices;
- Email the County Council's regeneration team with comments;
- Abergavenny Town Council also hosted a stall at the Abergavenny Spring Fayre on the 24th April which promoted the survey and spoke to the local community on issued and ideas for the town centre.

Examples of promotion

The opportunity to have your say on the placemaking plan was promoted by:

- A joint press release
- Social media accounts
- Email notice to local stakeholder organisations
- Poster distribution amongst local businesses and groups
- Installation of correx signs in Abergavenny town centre

Images that show the type of promotion are shown overleaf.

Image 1 – Promotional Activity



Your Town. Your Plan. Your Say.

Abergavenny is changing and we want you to be part of that change.

Monmouthshire County Council, in partnership with Abergavenny Town Council, is developing a Placemaking Plan for the town centre, and now's the time to share your views.

We're looking to:

- 🔍 Understand the challenges and opportunities in the town.
- 🌱 Build a shared long-term vision.



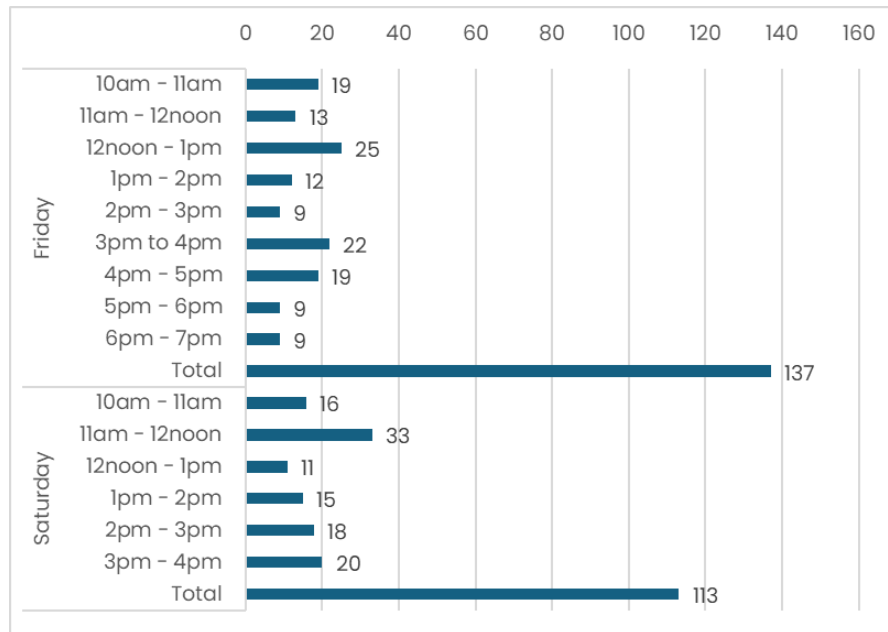
Source: Chris Jones Regeneration; Abergavenny Town Council

Participation Metrics on:

Face to face

250 people attended the two days of face to face consultation with Figure 2 below showing the distribution across the two days.

Figure 2 – Number of People Attending Consultation Event by Day and Time



Source: Chris Jones Regeneration

Let's Talk Monmouthshire platform

- 2559 no. had an awareness of the Plan by visiting the project page
- 781 no. downloaded the proposals document
- 340 no. completed the feedback survey

Email/correspondence

- 4 no. emails were received with comments

4. Face to Face Consultation

Format

On entering the community drop in sessions, people that attending were met with the following information and tasks:

- Display Boards
 - Purpose of consultation
 - Key facts and figures on Abergavenny today
 - Place analysis
 - Draft vision
 - Opportunities Framework
 - Series of Themes and Proposals
 - How to Make Comments
- Provision of A6 survey cards with QR code and weblink to online feedback survey (English and Welsh)
- Provision of hard survey copies
- Other comments – post it notes
 - Other issues
 - Other ideas
- Large OS map for people to note specific locations for ideas and challenges

Images of the display boards and photos of the event in Image 3.

Why We Are Here?

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A PLACEMAKING PLAN?

Overseeing the development of the town centre, the Placemaking Plan provides a framework for the town centre, ensuring that the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

The plan sets out the vision for the town centre, the key principles that will guide the development, and the actions that will be taken to achieve the vision.

The plan is a living document, and it will be updated as the town centre evolves and new opportunities arise.

Challenges and Opportunities

LOCATION

- The town centre is a key part of the town's identity and is a major attraction for visitors.
- The town centre is a key part of the town's economy and is a major source of employment.
- The town centre is a key part of the town's culture and is a major source of entertainment.

POPULATION

- The town centre is a key part of the town's population and is a major source of residents.
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EDUCATION AND SKILLS

- The town centre is a key part of the town's education and skills and is a major source of learning.
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IDENTITY

- The town centre is a key part of the town's identity and is a major source of pride.
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Our Vision and Goals

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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Overarching Plan

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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Gateways

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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Tudor Street/ St Johns Square

TUDOR STREET/ ST JOHNS SQUARE

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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Arrival

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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Cross Street Destination Area

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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The Market

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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Stringing Together Public Realm

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

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Gabb Square

OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

- To create a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.
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A Town for All

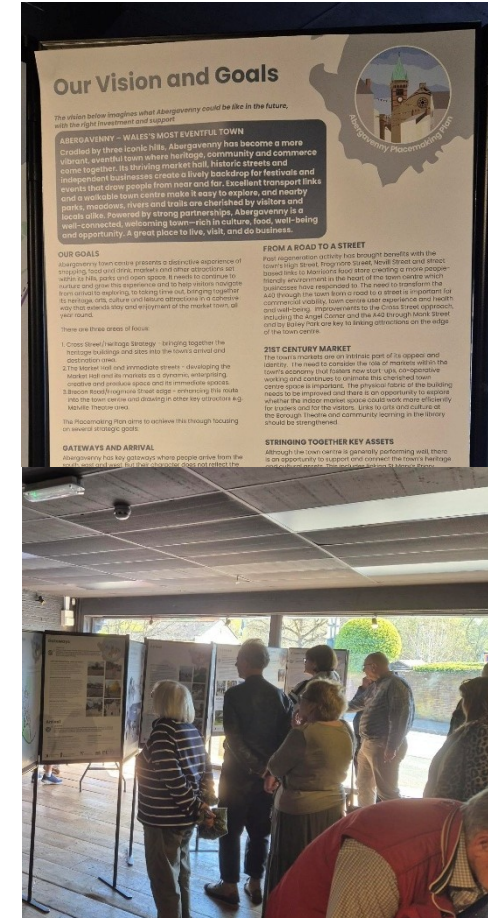
OUR VISION

The vision for the town centre is a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive place to live, work, and visit.

OUR GOALS

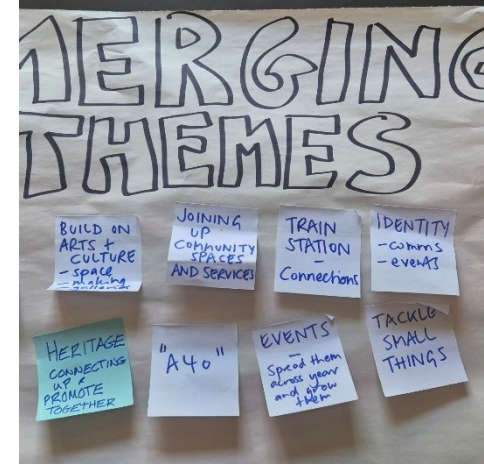
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Image 3 – Images from Community Consultation



Source: Chris Jones Regeneration

Image 4 - Images from Community Consultation



Source: Chris Jones Regeneration

Key Messages

Post it notes

The local community either spoke to members of the place-making team where notes were made, or people independently wrote about their issues and ideas on post it notes.

Issues

Town Centre Businesses	Parking	Promotion	Market
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower the rates Shops need grants and tax breaks High number of barber shops – worries of money laundering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too many car parks – build new housing on the car parks not green fields Need traffic warden as people park on double yellow lines Pavement parking at bottom of Cross Street – dangerous and outputting Enforce double yellow line parking People not following the one way system in Morrisons car park Too much pavement parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not using 004 service to promote local businesses at bus station and other high traffic areas Promote and signpost Abergavenny Community centre from town centre and car parks What is the digital plan for the town centre? Town doesn't have consistent signage or branding on street furniture, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sort out seating for customers at Thursday night market Outdoor Tuesday market losing its identity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leaving Bailey Park car park can take hours. I won't parking there ▪ Pegasus Court have concerns over their parking being abused in Mill Street – Pugh's need to understand this ▪ Lack of enforcement – vehicles parking on pavements 		
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The A40	Arts and Culture	Footpaths	Parks and Amenity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Please stop big trucks going through the town ▪ Air pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor programme at the Borough Theatre – must do better ▪ Test and trial an art club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paths from Fairfield to Sugar Loaf needs to be signposted and gated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keep dogs out of children's play areas ▪ Play equipment is very old in parks like Swan Meadows ▪ Dogs need more control and better ownership ▪ Keep dogs off sports pitches ▪ Will open/green spaces be maintained ▪ No dogs in Linda Vista Gardens

Town Centre Streetscene	Buildings and Sites	Young People	Transport and Movement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bring back benches in Red Square ▪ Maintenance of drainage – poor when heavy rain ▪ Replace trees outside Harry's/Wetherspoons ▪ Early visitors see vomit and dog poo on pavements ▪ Too many dogs and lead to dog mess on street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eyesores <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Damage to Great George ○ Damaged windows to former HSBC bank ○ Faced of the old structure by Market Hall corner ▪ Reveal the castle from behind the trees ▪ Challenge of landlords seeing profit not social gain ▪ Richards Shop Space – combination of businesses and residential and green spaces in centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not enough spaces for teenagers ▪ Need more things for youths/kids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Railway station not mentioned ▪ Bus stop by Tesco doesn't work – you can't see bus coming x2 ▪ Railway station is isolated from town ▪ Traffic jams past Bailey Park and down Hereford Road are now much worse. Too many lights. ▪ Potholes – poor maintenance ▪ Enforce 20mph on Monmouth Road – cars race down there! ▪ Reinstate speed bumps on Pen-y-pound ▪ Potholes ▪ Angel corner – lights on crossing ▪ Baker Street two way cycle way need to be watched out for

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hard to get, to and from station ▪ State of Llanfoist bridge – structural ▪ Dangerous getting off bus near Morrisons ▪ Signage from train to bus station lacking – needs improvement ▪ Parking at train station is poor
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Accessibility	Active Travel and Connections	The Experience	Crime
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dedicated pedestrian crossing by St John's Square ▪ Some pedestrian crossing beeps don't work ▪ Town isn't pedestrian friendly – really hard to get across the roads ▪ Changing Places facility needed desperately. Disabled adults are now 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not a bike friendly town ▪ Poor connections between Riverside and Cross Street and Aldi ▪ Crossing at bridge to access allotments ▪ Leave castle meadows as it – do not spoil it ▪ Means of enclosure at cycle gates – place a bollard on the proposed bridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gap in food and drink – casual, drop in, wine/beer and small plates ▪ Attract nationals like M & S and White Stuff ▪ No public art gallery – studio, workspace with a community focus ▪ All very nice – what about day to day living department store, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anti-social behaviour – mostly kids

<p>changed in toilet floors – no dignity for users or carers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promobility group have been highlighting areas which need improvement for year. Emails sent to Highways do not receive the courtesy of a reply. Accessibility audits have been carried out before. ▪ Charity shops leaving all their wares on the street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lion Street cycle lane not used and creates bottleneck at Monk Street ▪ Pedestrianisation issues with cyclists – very dangerous ▪ Cycleways throughout town and adjacent area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Too many charity shops 	
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Community Assets	Landscape	Other	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Future of Lido project x2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Don't tear up mature landscaping that already exists – like cedar trees by Tesco ▪ Put money into trees not paving projects and spaces ▪ Precious trees planted not replace when dead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Your scope is too narrow limited to townscape improvements. What is it for? Who is it for? Vision? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪

Ideas

Promotion	Streets	Arts and Culture	Heritage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce walking guides to encourage tourism – there are good examples in Crickhowell Themed events across the year Events and festival board in the town More themed events in the summer Love Abergavenny: mountains, green, care and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close Upper Cross Street on a Sunday Need more phone charging points Light touch improvements to signage and pedestrian safety Railings are odd on Station Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public arts space in old Post Office building Support for small venues Promote arts and cultural facilities – so much more – Borough Theatre is brilliant but underused Creatives and crafters destination – arts/craft trail Theatre – widely advertise shows Build creative culture with support for a more diverse programme of events Better shows at the theatre please Develop a community art gallery like in Bruton – quality and diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tie in Carnegie Library with heritage buildings Make more of the castle – events, more signage Markers to accentuate the town's history – e.g. wig making – blue plaques Monmouthshire does not have a truly Welsh heritage

Community Assets	Landscape	Transport and Movement	The Market
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rebuild Lido X3 ▪ A good size indoor swimming pool ▪ Youth facilities for 12 to 15 ▪ Men's sheds in Tudor Day Centre ▪ Develop an indoor trampoline centre ▪ Park Street community centre alignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More garden oasis in centre of town ▪ Removal all lights off trees at Post Office square 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Traffic lights needed on Llanfoist bridge ▪ Love hoppa bus idea X2 ▪ Need a bus from Nevill Hall to The Grange to Ystrad hospital ▪ Llanfoist bridge should be surveyed and maintained as main route in ▪ More zebra crossings along the A40 from the west of town ▪ Make local sustainability opportunities more visible e.g. car sharing etc ▪ Access by car for frail/disabled people outside the 10-4pm curfew e.g., to dentist and optician ▪ Traffic lights outside Priory on Monk Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Another farmers market ▪ More arts and crafts markets – brings people in from a wide area

The Experience	Parks and Amenity	Active Travel	Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More variety of shops Attract a mainstream clothing store – M&S, Next, New Look not much here for younger residents More mainstream shops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linda Vista Gardens – hidden gem – signage, social media, events – link to food festival Decent children’s play area X2 Improve Swan Meadows play but it does flood!” X2 Splash park or paddling pool Better play equipment – see Mitchel Troy pirate ship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bike hire for use in town and canal/cycle track Build cycle bridge across River Usk Signage to encourage cyclists to dismount Active travel links between Cantref side and station via Castle Meadows Discard new bridge on Meadows – dangerous on a flood plain Close old bridge to traffic – build a flyover road bridge on the line of the old rail bridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More engagement and connection between local schools and community initiatives Need for a network of community assets

Buildings and Spaces	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ground floor of old post office upgraded to retail or café ▪ Painting the hoardings, Richards should be contemporary ▪ Reinstate public toilets off Frogmore Street ▪ Turn some empty shops on Brecon Road into homes ▪ Brighten up drab buildings ▪ Tidy up the scruffy shops by insisting on paintwork being regularly renewed and weeds removed ▪ Sort our White Horse Lane ▪ Gabb Square link to Frogmore Street site ▪ Links local book clubs into Writing Festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage walking to the mountain by creating signage throughout the town ▪ We need growth in a sustainable way ▪ Food Festival – more stalls on streets – businesses open later ▪ Need to keep our Welsh identity 0 should feature in the Plan

Emerging Themes – Face to Face Consultation

Build on arts and culture – space, making, galleries

Signage but be creative

Heritage connecting up and promote together

Joining up community spaces and services

The A40

Train station and connections

Events – spread them across the year and grow them

Town centre identity – communications and events

Young people – enterprise and space to hang out

Tackle small things

Plan notes

Image 2 - Photos of Map with Notes



Using a large format OS map base Abergavenny, members of the public either marked up their comments or placemaking plan team members listened to people, made notes and also drew on the map. In addition to the open post it notes comments, map based notes included:

- Need more fast charging in town centre car parks
- Swan meadows play area is poor and it floods
- Hard to cross bus station
- Cross Street historic frontages need improving
- Lower Castle Street and junction with Cross Street needs to give priority to pedestrians
- Which route do we promote from the bus station into town centre – St Marys, Beili Lane or Lower Cross Street?
- Potential link from eastern edge of St Mary's Church into Swan Meadows
- Continuity of road enhancement along upper section of Market Street – need to sign this and animate this corner so people wander further
- The library is invisible from the outside – it needs more direct signage
- Cycle route from bus station through St Mary's – Monk Street and through Brewery Yard
- Monk Street/Lion Street junction really hard to cross – it needs a no right turn sign when driving southbound
- Convert former Woolworths into an arcade of smaller shops
- Could Tiverton Place car park be developed for intown living and commercial?
- Carnegie Library could be a community arts venue
- Gabs square needs traffic calming
- Tesco bus stop needs a pull in
- Needs a bus stop back on Whittall Williams side of A40
- Redevelop former toilets on Whitehorse Lane
- Restaurant wants seating and festoon lighting down Whitehorse Lane
- Need a sign from Fairfield car park to direct people up the Sugar Loaf
- Better green space and landscaping alongside Morrisons
- Enforce pedestrianised zone more rigidly
- Parking time and prices at Fairfield to encourage people to stay/eat in town
- Widen road at Hereford Road lights to allow flow of traffic
- Skate Park in Bailey Park
- Better crossing between Bailey Park and Morrisons

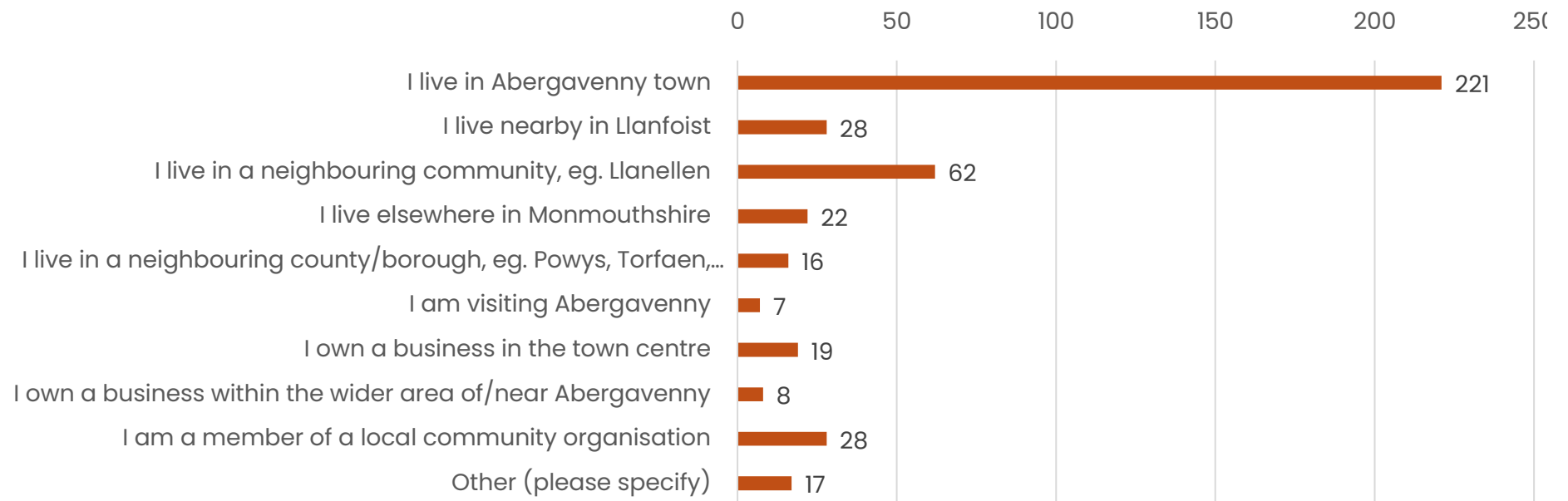
5. Let's Talk Monmouthshire Consultation¹

Summary Results

The Respondent

Figure 5 highlights that 64% of respondents live in Abergavenny, with 25% living in either Llanfoist or a neighbouring community.

Figure 5 – Who Are You?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

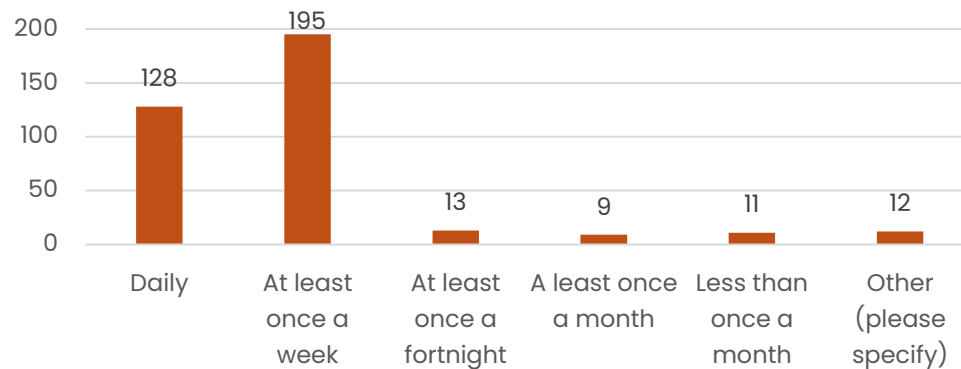
¹ This section includes the feedback submitted through the paper questionnaires

For the other category, these responses included:

- Town Councillor
- I work in the area
- I run a business in the town centre
- I visit my grandmother 4 times a year
- My partner lives in town
- I am a driving instructor who works in and around Abergavenny daily
- In temporary accommodation
- I visit and stay with family regularly
- Work on Linda Vista gardens

Figure 6 below indicates to us that 37% visit the town centre daily, 56% at least once a week with the other categories dropping to approximately about 4%.

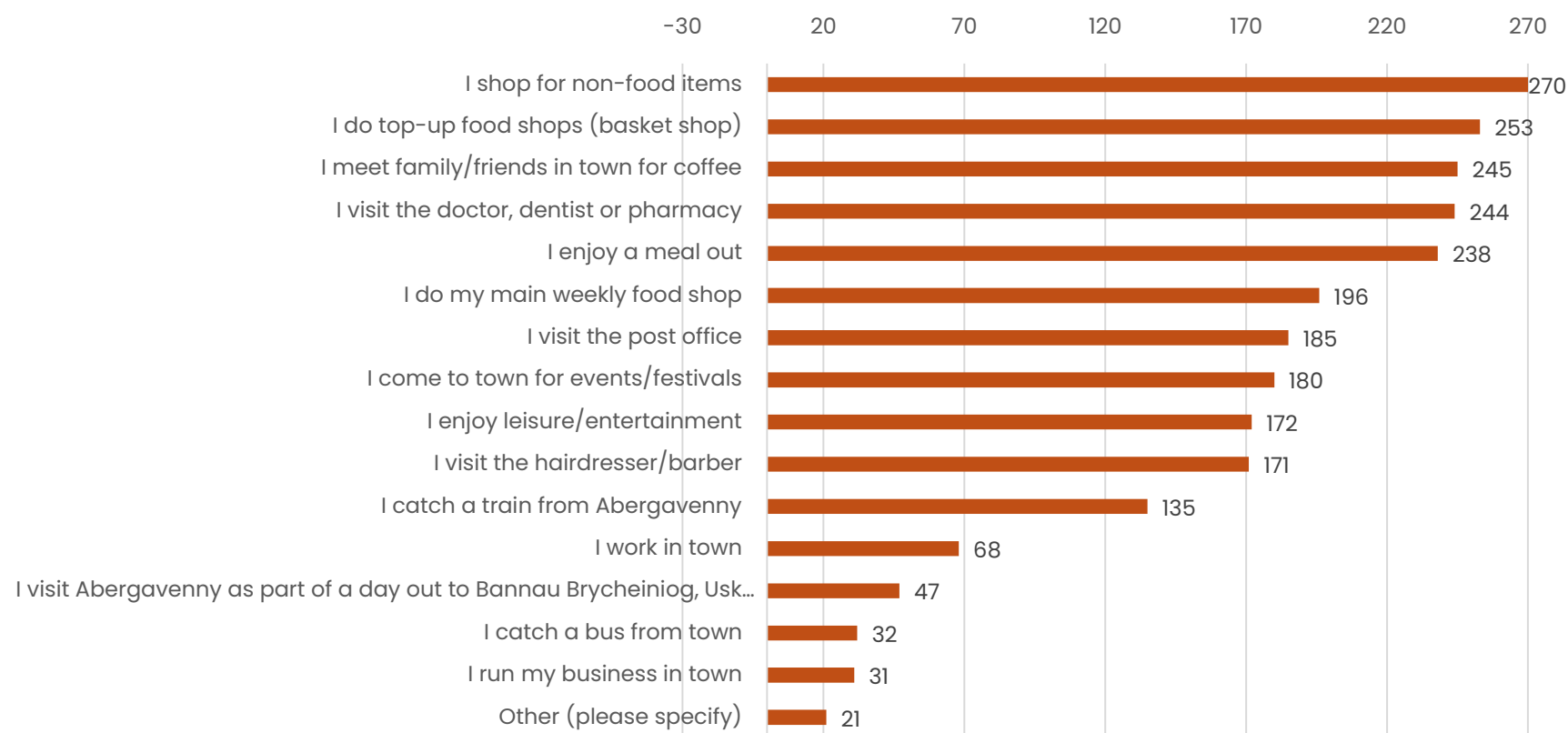
Figure 6 – How often do you visit Abergavenny town centre?



Source: Let's Talk Survey n=368

When asked what are the main reasons respondents visit the town centre Figure 7, highlights the number one activity is shopping for non-food items, followed by a cluster of activities being top-up food shops, meeting up for a coffee, visiting the doctor, dentist or pharmacy and enjoying a meal out.

Figure 7 – What are the main reasons you visit the town centre? (tick all that apply)



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

For the other category, these responses included:

- Often walk around the town simply to enjoy the surroundings.
- Visit the library
- My church is in town
- Town Council meetings and business X2
- Volunteer in town
- Library
- Multiple reasons
- Walk the dogs through town and down to the castle meadows
- Volunteer at shopmobiliy
- I buy vegetables in the Tuesday market. I shop in Waitrose. I enjoy the occasional meal in Nicholls
- Walking the dog
- I don't visit at all if I can help it
- Community volunteering
- To take people whom I support into town to access services.
- Caring responsibilities
- I visit my daughter cafe in town
- I own a business and attend events and festivals in Abergavenny as a trader
- Come to the green spaces to walk my dog, meet friends and see events

Abergavenny Today

When respondents were asked how they rate the village for a number of aspects, Figure 8 indicates to us that those areas that require improvements include:

- ✖ travelling by public transport
- ✖ arrival and entrances into the village centre
- ✖ bicycle parking and storage
- ✖ cycling to the town centre

Where people rate aspects as very good to good, these tend to be about its:

- ✓ people and the community
- ✓ car parking
- ✓ local heritage

Followed by a cluster of similar scoring for public spaces, landscape (trees and planting) and general quality of the town centre.

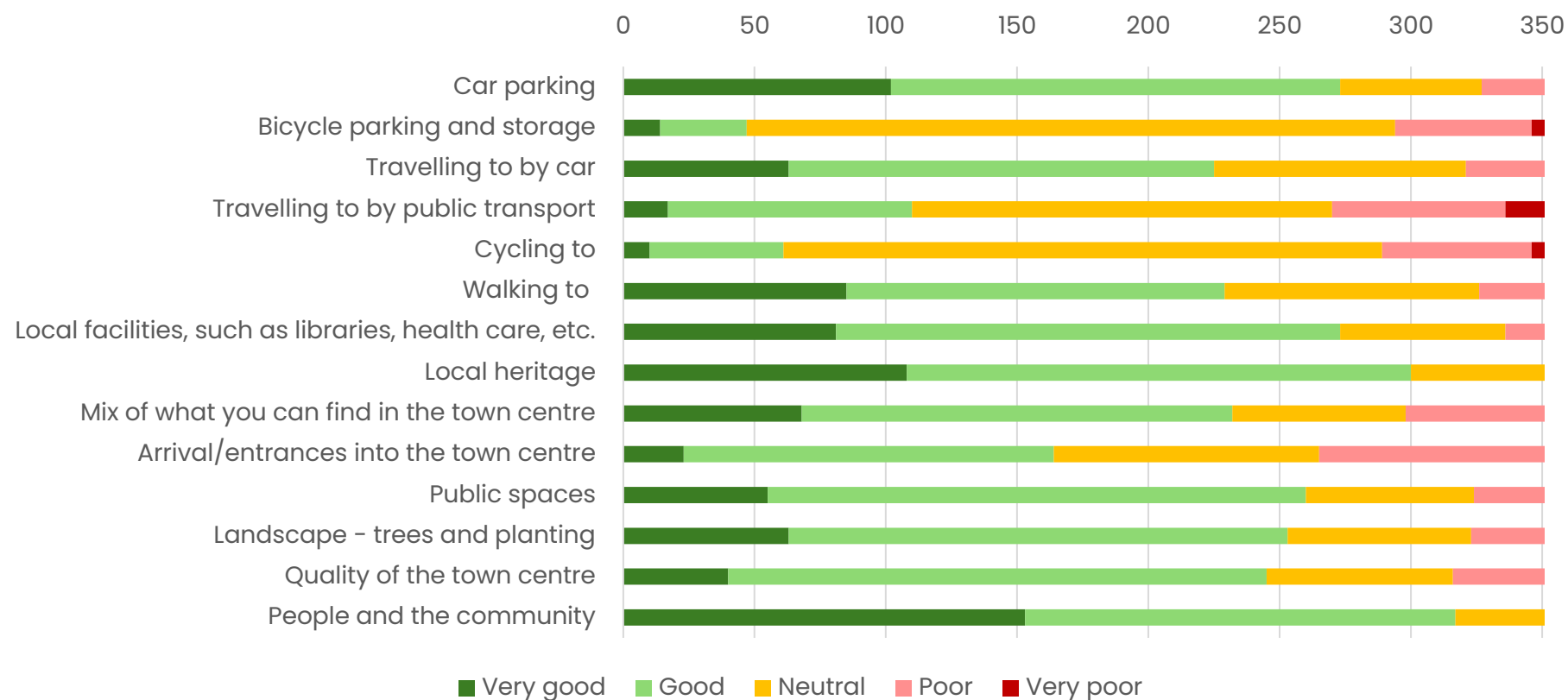
Statements on town life in Figure 9 indicates that some aspects have greater levels of disagreement than others. These include:

- ✖ the town centre meets the needs of young people
- ✖ I have to shop outside of the town for larger food shops and non-food items

Those aspects where people feel in agreement with include:

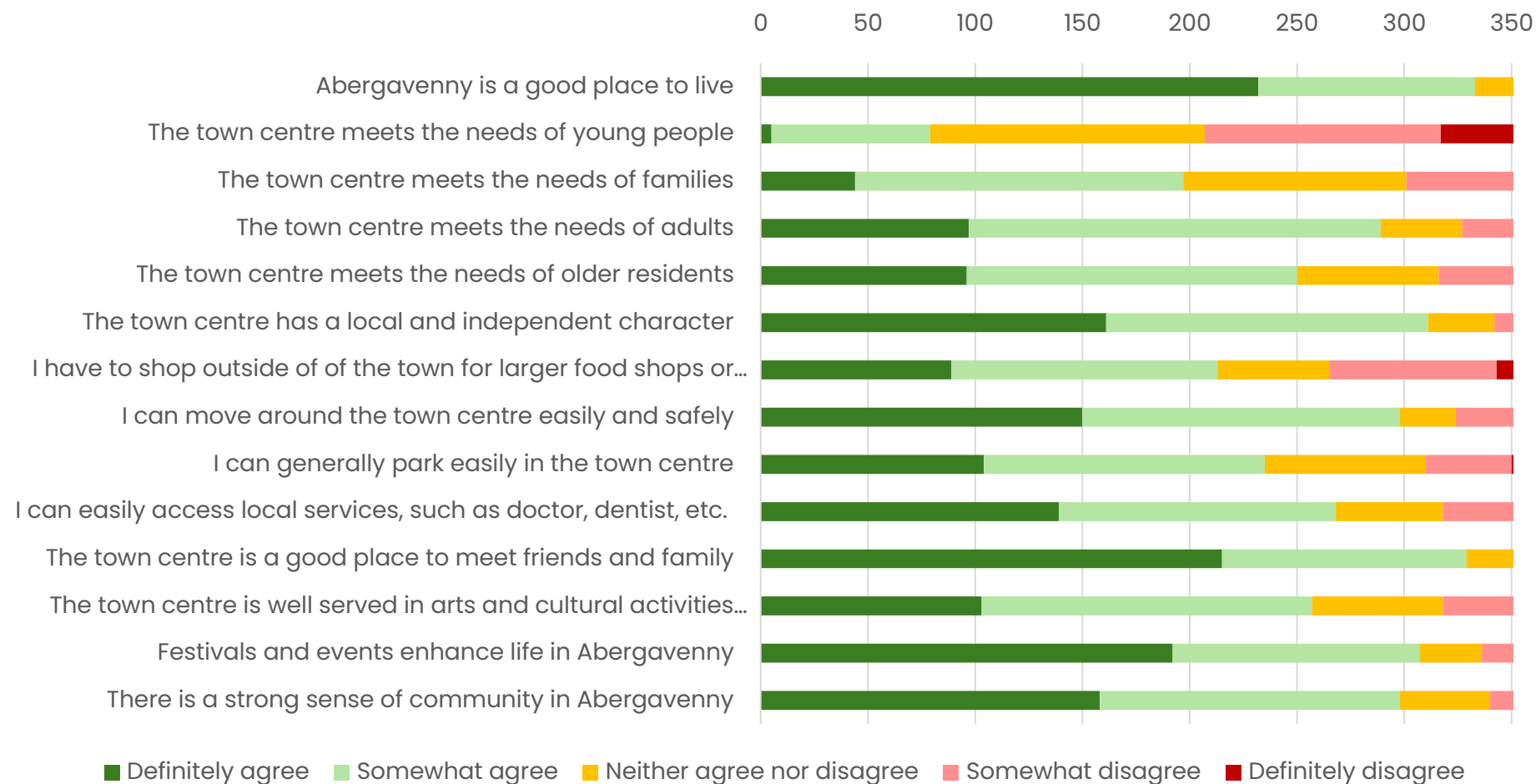
- ✓ Abergavenny is a good place to live
- ✓ The town centre is a good place to meet friends and family
- ✓ Festivals and events enhance life in Abergavenny
- ✓ Joint: strong sense of community/town centre has a local and independent character

Figure 8 - How do you rate the town centre for the following...



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Figure 9 – To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about Abergavenny town centre?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Draft Vision

The following draft vision was shared with respondents, asking them to rate it.

ABERGAVENNY – WALES'S MOST EVENTFUL TOWN

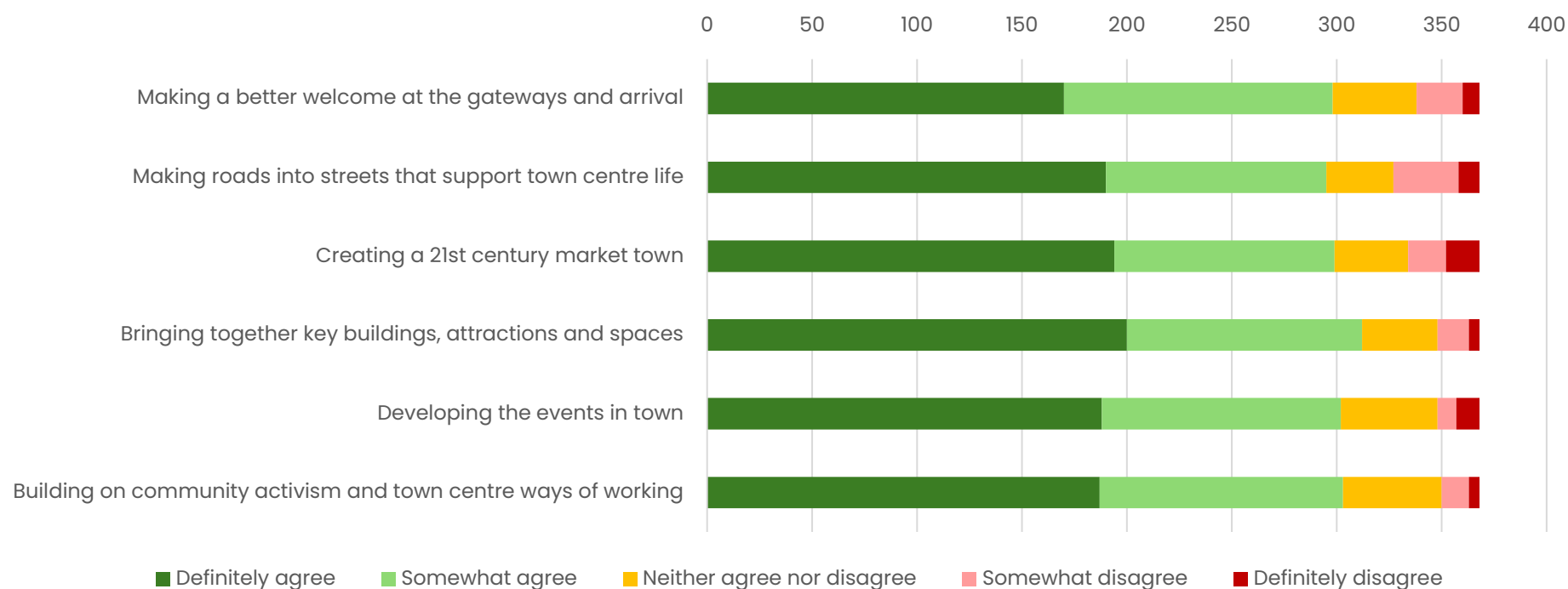
Cradled by three iconic hills, Abergavenny has become a more vibrant, eventful town where heritage, community and commerce come together. Its thriving market hall, historic streets and independent businesses create a lively backdrop for festivals and events that draw people from near and far. Excellent transport links and a walkable town centre make it easy to explore, and nearby parks, meadows, rivers and trails are cherished by visitors and locals alike. Powered by strong partnerships, Abergavenny is a well-connected, welcoming town—rich in culture, food, well-being and opportunity. A great place to live, visit, and do business.

71% of respondents either totally agree or agree with the draft vision with 10% either totally disagreeing or disagreeing with it.

5 Goals

Figure 10 below shows the general agreement across the six goals that underpin the draft vision, with a minor number of responses that post any disagreement.

Figure 10 – To what extent do you agree or disagree with the goals that provide the over-arching strategy for the town centre?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

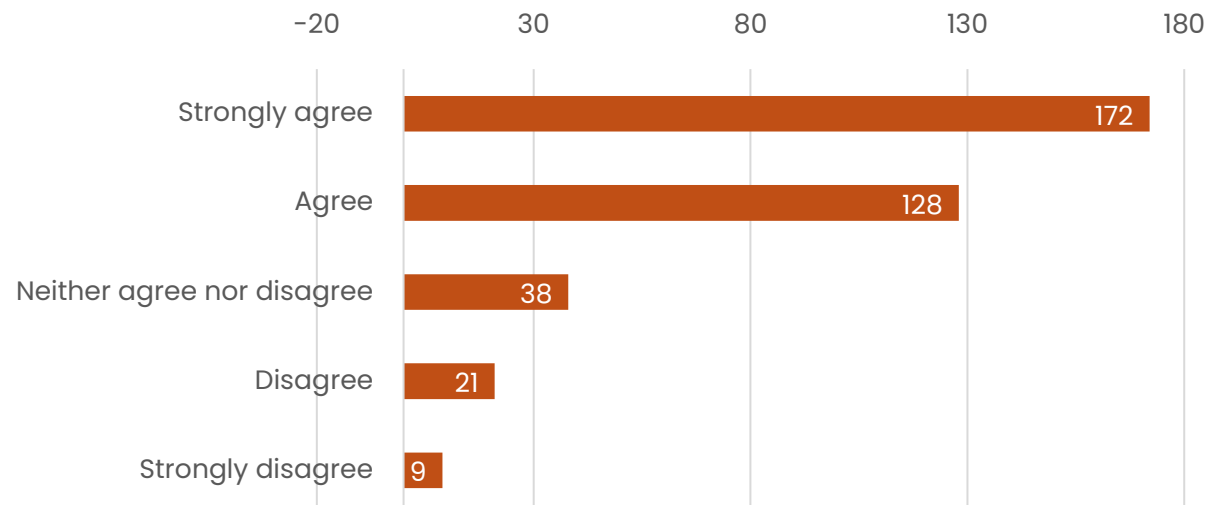
Proposals

The following charts and analysis relate to the individual proposals outlined within the community consultation.

Gateways

47% strongly agree with the need to improve the main routes and gateways, with 35% agreeing and only 6% disagree.

Figure 11 – Do you agree with the need to improve main routes and gateways into the town centre through improved landscaping, signage, use of public artwork and enhancing pavements into the town centre at Llanfoist Bridge/Tudor Street, Monmouth Road and Brecon Road?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. General

- "All the proposals will make Abergavenny an even better place to live and visit."

- “Definitely agree- have noticed how challenging pavements can be since navigating with a pram. There are some bits of pavement which are impossible/dangerous as you head past the Londis down towards Bailey Park. It must be so difficult for wheelchair users. This is much more important for residents than visitors so probably don’t get much attention, but the needs of residents should probably be prioritised. Enough attention on cars! Make it harder to get around by car to disincentivise!”

2. Maintenance

- “Gateways into the town from all routes do look unloved and very tired. It does not get anyone excited of what is to come when visiting our beautiful town.”
- “It is unfortunate that the approaches via both Monmouth & Brecon Road do not show the best side of town.”

3. Active Travel

- “Very much agree with enhancing paths, but please don’t forget cycleways.”

4. Location Specific

- “Many people walk from the railway station towards town via the Mill St industrial estate. This needs more trees. There were many trees here in the past, but they have been felled. If they were replaced this would be a huge improvement.”
- “Appreciate there are many gateways into the town, but there is a missed opportunity at the Railway Station ‘forecourt’ to give a positive sense of arrival, ‘welcome’ and provide some useful, basic information (taxi numbers, where is the town centre?) through wayfinding and providing a pleasant ‘dwell space’. The first bus stop – station road/A40 junction – is a major hopping off point for people going to Brecon. No mention of the bridge/active travel proposals at the end or Bridge pub end across the Meadows.”
- “Hardwick roundabout is treacherous!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Many junctions create bottle necks and opposite Tesco is the worst...”

5. Design Detail

- “Enhancing pavements so that safe crossing places are demarcated with tactile paving (modern tactile paving can be sustainable, Smart town adapted, quick to install and replaceable cheaply. Move the tactile paving/crossing places back from junctions to allow motorists time to see pedestrians. Application of raised kerbs in places would allow blind and

partially sighted residents to safely navigate across roads. Where curved paving junctions have tactile paving and dropped kerbs there is no 'touch' guidance to line up square to cross safely. Quick fix/quick win/relatively inexpensive."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

1. Character

- "Changes should keep the town's architecture and rural nature at the forefront. Trees and planting should be liberally used to often hard landscaping."
- "The area at Frogmore Street and Abergavenny Baptist has evolved the way it is with all that metal barriers. Those barriers by there and also by Fairfield Car Park are forever being covered with advertising banners which actually don't enhance the town and prevent you seeing through the barriers to what's behind including traffic. The banners also left so long they become tatty. Stopping all these I think would be good."
- "Information signs of how many car parks there are and their capacity and when they are closed."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

Those who disagreed often cited:

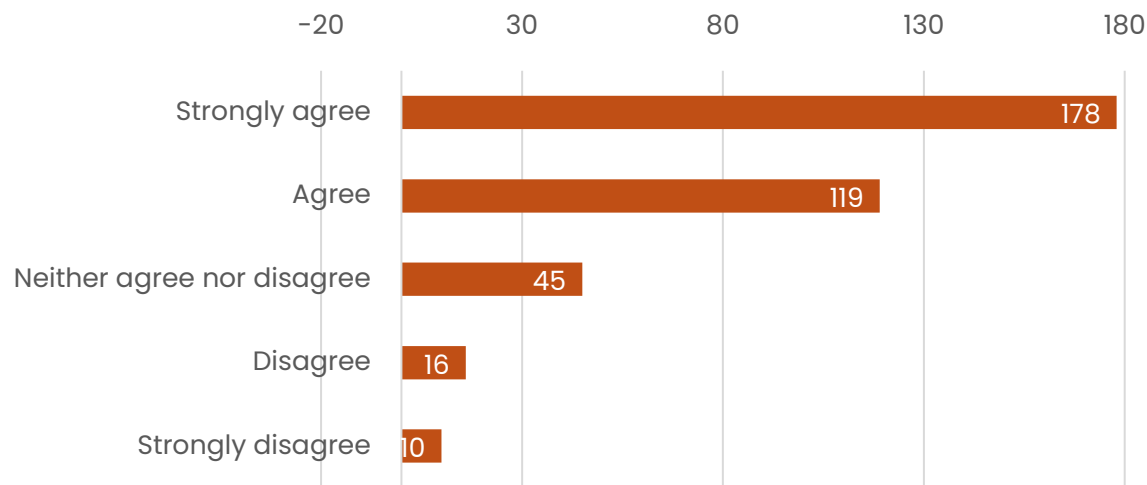
1. Value for money

- "Just keep the weeds down and the plants watered otherwise don't waste more money on the entrances."
- "Not with the use of public artwork (it might increase graffiti)."
- "Wasting money on a vanity project."

The Bus Station/Fairfield Car Park

48% strongly agree with the need to improve the general appearance and linkages at the bus station and Fairfield car park with 32% agreeing and only 4% disagreeing.

Figure 12 – Do you agree with introducing greenery and a focal point to the bus station area and improved linkages to the town centre, and between Fairfield car park and the town centre?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposals frequently mentioned:

1. Planting

- "Would be nice to see trees & plants & make it easier for disabled to get into town."

- "Most visitors from outside Abergavenny arrive at the bus station or the bus station car park. At present this is an unpleasant experience. There is little greenery and what is there is poorly maintained the access paths through the carpark are particularly poor especially for older or disabled people using walkers or mobility scooters. There is no way to traverse the bus station area towards the controlled crossing over the A40 in a safe manner without walking on the tarmac in front of the buses. The path next to swan meadows park does not even sport a ramp to allow mobility aids to mount the pavement."

2. Signage

- "Signage is a quick win here. Improving the walkway from the bus station car park to the centre via belli priory could be massively improved."
- "Make use of the lane behind the shops and the tithe barn. Plant large trees that can't be snapped and if they do, please replace them. Greenery and benches by the bus station would be ideal."

3. Swan Meadows

- "Also to add to this a development of swan meadow park would be good as it has the foundations to be a great green space. However hardly any benches in the park for picnic spots and neither a great play park for children."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

1. Swan Meadows

- "Didn't read anything about Swan Meadows... this is such a sad little park, and it could be amazing. It's a huge space and that park hasn't changed since I was a child. It's about 35 years old+. There is not nearly enough focus in the plans on young families. I understand the ageing population argument but think plans should consider the longer term (given that such a park hasn't changed in 35 years, maybe that's the time horizon to consider?!) Swan meadows could be a much more attractive space for visitors from the bus and train station, and as I said above, residents should come first."

2. Keep It Simple

- "The bus station is a bus station. People go there to catch a bus, why would it be a focal point of the town, it is what it is, people don't go there for greenery, just to get a bus. Perhaps a sign from the bus station to town, but people using the bus station usually know where they are going."
- "Look at Green Flag principles and safe access for women and girls too"

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

Those who disagreed often cited:

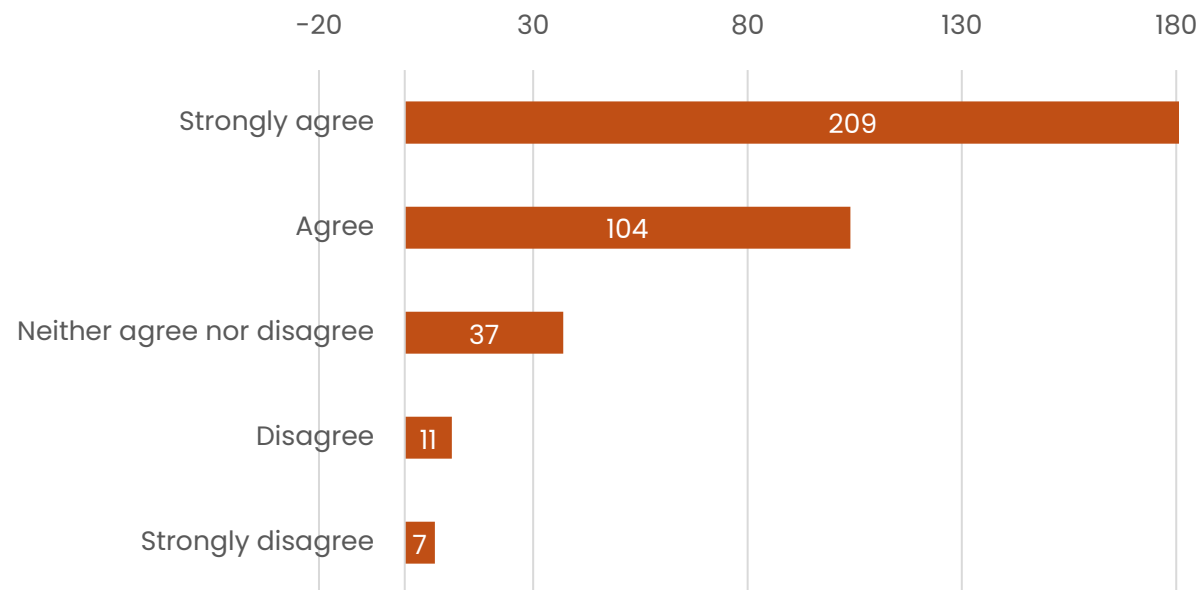
3. Value for Money

- "Don't waste money on this, the bus station looks fine and there are two pedestrian crossings supporting Fairfield car park already."
- "Mill Street is a worse eyesore!"
- "Wasting money again!"

Improve Links at Castle Street and Tudor Street

57% strongly agree with the need to improve the links between the car parks and the town, including improved public facilities with 28% agreeing and only 3% disagreeing.

Figure 13 – Do you agree with proposals to improve the links between Tudor Street/Castle Street car parks and the town centre including improved public toilets, shopmobility and a changing places provision and an improved setting for the Royal Mail building?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Architecture/Character

- "The Royal Mail building is an absolute eyesore. It is awful that visitors having to look at this first thing when walking up to the town center. The example picture of how it could look fantastic. Very inviting and wanting to go further to explore the town."

2. Accessibility

- "Tactile paving along Tudor Street (Surgery side) and tactile paving plus pedestrian traffic light installed, by proposed new changing places facility to guide pedestrians across to St John's Square. "
- "I am visually impaired and a pedestrian. In places where bikes have started to ride on pavements (including with permission) it has become extremely difficult for people such as myself to move around safely. I would urge you to invite vulnerable people to give input during the scheme. I would be happy to be part of such input. There are quite a lot of visually impaired people who live in Abergavenny because it feels safe for them. Please don't make the town less safe. For example, removing curbs can make crossing roads more dangerous for blind people as they may wander, by accident, into traffic. Guide dogs cannot cope in spaces designated as shared by pedestrians and cars and bike."

3. Town Facilities

- "Changing Places toilets would be a great incentive."
- "There needs to be a realistic review of the hub and its facilities. Will all the proposed facilities be used well enough to justify their cost of implementation & maintenance?"
- "The only improvements there should be the public toilets and to shopmobility."
- "Royal Mail delivery office / parcels office building is a waste of a great location. It's inconvenient for most users who have to use pay car parks / buses when wanting to send or collect a parcel. It would be better located to a less central (and likely cheaper for RM) location with a small adjacent free car park and bus-stop, and the building / space used for a post office together with other retail stores that would add character and choice to the square."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

- "Would be nice not to see a big empty building plus more toilets would be excellent."
- "Careful consideration of the design of new buildings for this or any other space is necessary. Any design should be truly sympathetic to existing landscape and architecture and not be modern design for the sake of it. The town does not need any more monstrosities like the Morrisons building (nothing against the supermarket, but the building is a travesty)."
- "Just try to get the post office building facia improved, the rest is fine."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

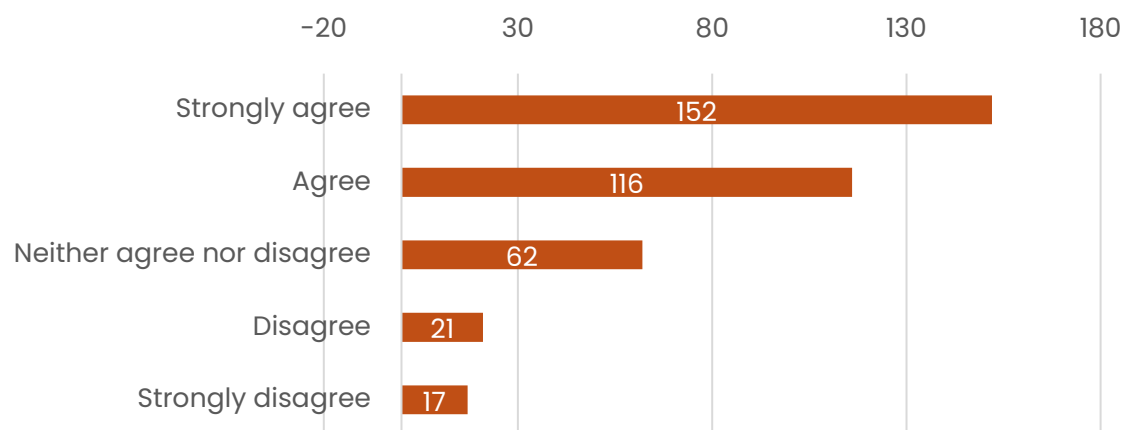
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "St John's square is perfectly fine as it is."
- "Waste of money, no need."
- "Total waste of money. Charming as is, particularly the tiled information on the Roman fort. Little traffic. Post office building needs long term reuse not facelift. The idea of a providing a hoist for disabled users in public toilet is ludicrous. Likewise, showers/changing areas for cyclists. They can use the toilets. If everything is repaved, key improvements like St Johns Square cease to be markers of special places."

Pedestrian Links at Bailey Park and A40

41% strongly agree with the need to improve the links between Bailey Park and the town centre with 31.5% agreeing, 17% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 6% disagreeing.

Figure 14 – Do you agree with improvements to improve pedestrian links between Bailey Park, the A40 and the town centre that include a courtesy crossing, signage on the park railings and other features?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Crossing Point

- "The pedestrian route does not follow a desire line across from Bailey Park to Morrisons. Would SWTRA allow the traffic lights to be repositioned on the A40? Similarly, at Lion Street there is no clear route to Market Street (*especially if a resident is blind/partially sighted/on a mobility scooter/ adult with buggy & small children. The Lion Street surface is indistinguishable from a path."
- "Very strongly agree. Have encountered a fair few random lost visitors trying to get to the town centre, who have followed the road around from the train station. The path to the right-hand side of Morrisons is nice, allowing you to avoid uglier bits and sending you right into the pretty bit with bean and bread."
- "Pedestrians have to wait too long to cross. They should come first!"

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

1. Character of Park

- "I agree, but please don't overwhelm the railings, park settings with signage. It needs to be there, but discreetly."

2. Traffic Flow

- "Traffic flow needs to improved, not slowed down by more lights/crossings."
- "Since implementing 4 sets of traffic lights on this short main stretch of road, it is often at a standstill during peak times. Traffic flow definitely needs to be considered if adding further crossings."
- "Bailey Park is already accessible quite well."
- "The path is too narrow here for people with wheelchairs or pushchairs to wait to cross the road. Ie the path is blocked until they are able to cross meaning pedestrians wanting to walk by will end up meandering onto the road to get by."
- "First sort out the movement patters so that they are clearer. The railings in your photos are a left over from movement patterns before Morrisons arrived. What is really required, as was submitted to the planning application on Morrisons, is a direct axial major pedestrian and cyclists connection from the bottom of Market Street through direct to Bailey Park."

Morrisons skewered that alignment by making the path deliver people to their front door. Unfortunately, also we were we left with the curious snaking path, (which was meant to go to the new library-never built) this just created a confusing set of movement patterns in this area. It's a mess."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

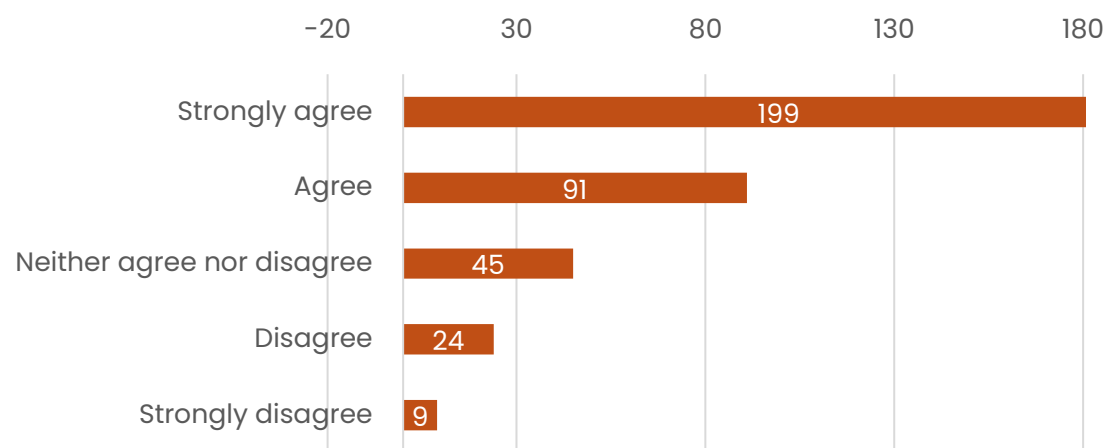
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "No changes needed."
- "Fine as it is."
- "Inappropriate use of Council resource."

Linkages to and from Train Station

54% strongly agree with the need to improve the links between the train station and the town centre with 25% agreeing, 12% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 7% disagreeing.

Figure 15 – Do you agree with the need to improve links between the train station and the town centre that include improved pedestrian crossings, wider pavements and to explore a local hoppla bus service that connects the train station with the bus station and wider town centre?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Buses and Taxis

- "A bus service would be a real boost to visitors and also locals who want to travel by train, especially given the difficulty of finding taxis."

- "I lived in Yate where there was a community bus for just £2 it would take you anywhere so no need to jump on different buses."
- "A hoppla bus to and from the train station would be amazing!"
- "Give taxi firms more incentive to attend the station especially evening times. Publish taxi phone numbers at exit from station."

2. Parking

- "Train station parking needs to be improved as a priority."
- "However, the priority should be increased parking for the station as it's extremely limited. A secure luggage storage facility could also be considered."
- "I personally think we need to build a car park on the other side of the A465 by the railway station, all paths to town are perfectly adequate and so are the crossings."
- "Bus link to station should include from Byfield lane to encourage its use with free parking."

3. Signage

- "Add signage to indicate walking route to Town from Train Station and to Train Station from town."

4. Accessibility

- "At present it is very difficult to walk from the bus station to the railway station pulling a suitcase. The paths are rutted and narrow with very few ramps to allow easy navigation with a suitcase. It is not clear how to get from the station into town as the path goes through private workshop land paths are too narrow. It is very difficult to cross the street coming from castle meadows by going to the train station as a pedestrian and vice versa."
- "An alternative walking route avoiding the main road would be ideal. Through the park to Mill Street or through Belmont Close."
- "An improvement to the footpath to Holywell Road would keep pedestrians away from the road and a much nicer walk into town."

- "The A40 pavement needs significant improvements in surface and width – partly narrowed by bulging residential hedges. Some areas are too narrow to pass others."

5. Other

- "Bike Hire / lockers/electric street car hire dock. Proper Taxi information may suffice if a Hoppa Bus is not a financially viable solution."
- "This is a priority. Given the investment in the railway station, there needs to be a return. A collaborative marketing strategy between Transport for Wales and Mon CC would generate day trippers who spend money."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

- "There are already sufficient links between the train station and town centre and all that needs doing is better signage and tidy the paths up."
- "The junctions can already get congested when drivers are turning right. Any improvements should not make this worse "

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

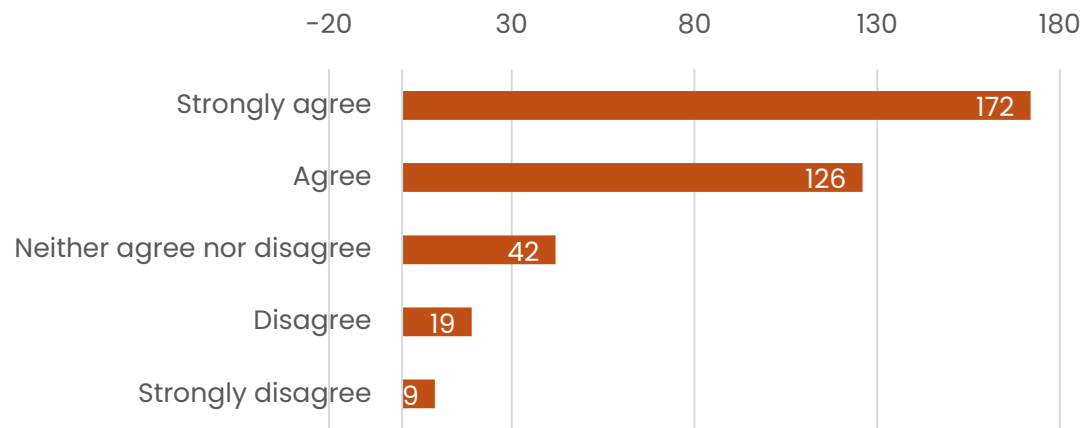
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "Do not agree with wider pavements are necessary, nor a Hoppa Bus – too erratic and expensive. Better signage would be good."
- "Not needed. Plenty of taxis and not far to walk."
- "Strongly disagree- the pavements do not need to be changed at all. There are plenty of pedestrian crossings – near the bus station, by the dentist, opposite the Angel Bakery etc- This doesn't need to be changed."
- "A hoppa bus seems extreme and an unnecessary investment when improve the experience of walking between. the town and the train station would be a much better use of resources."

Lower Cross Street and Monk Street Improvements

46% strongly agree with the need to make improvements on lower Cross Street and Monk Street with 34% agreeing, 11% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 5% disagreeing.

Figure 16 – Do you support the proposed improvements to lower Cross Street and Monk Street that will address pavement width and quality, commercial frontages and landscaping, amongst other ideas?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Pavement Parking

- "Enforce current parking restrictions."
- "This proposal directly addresses the issue I have with pavement parking outside my business on Monk St, this problem has been going on too long and has been dangerous for pedestrians, discriminatory for the disabled and detrimental to my business."

- "More parking controls as there are obstructive parking especially by disability badge holders which makes road unsafe at times. Needs more parking police patrolling and give warnings and tickets."
- "Please keep the old feel and look of the town. Old cobbled streets, quality stone walls and remember the heart of our town is rural. Please don't city-fy the areas with sheets of plastic, metal and end up making it look like an airport."

2. Character

- "It looks very unloved at the moment. I feel for any new small independent business opening as everyone just "quickly walks or drives past" this area of the town."
- "Excellent idea makes it more welcoming."
- "More green."

3. Accessibility

- "Increase the pavement width around the Swan hotel building area."
- "Doubtful re widening pavements in most places. Real need is to provide a better route along Link road for HGV's to avoid them having to negotiate Angel corner. Some commercial frontages could do with enhancement."

4. Other

- "Local businesses facing these streets should lead the plans."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those who were indifferent but made constructive comments mentioned:

1. Accessibility

- "A crossing nearer the old George and banning pavement parking (perhaps providing a few disabled bays instead) would be a more economical way of giving the same result."
- "The pedestrian crossing is in the wrong place."

2. Parking

- "I live on Monk Street. It's parking issues are caused by the lack of availability of residential parking permits. MCC doesn't recognise the upper bus station car park as an option. Also a recent Air bnb encourages its guests to park for free on the pavement underneath the property."
- "The pavement parking opposite St Mary's church is dreadful. There is a car park less than 50m away, but people are allowed to block the pavement and shop frontages. This must be illegal, but nothing is done."

3. Buildings

- "Do not widen pavements. Better landscaping with sensitivity. "
- "Rules for business signage."
- "Building owners need to be encouraged to maintain their buildings and the streetscene needs to be more cohesive. Historic England did a scheme in Coventry which looked great. The signage and other things attached to the buildings high level are too busy. This is a conservation area and the shopfronts should reflect this. No point investing in the gateways into the town if the buildings are being left to decay by owners."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

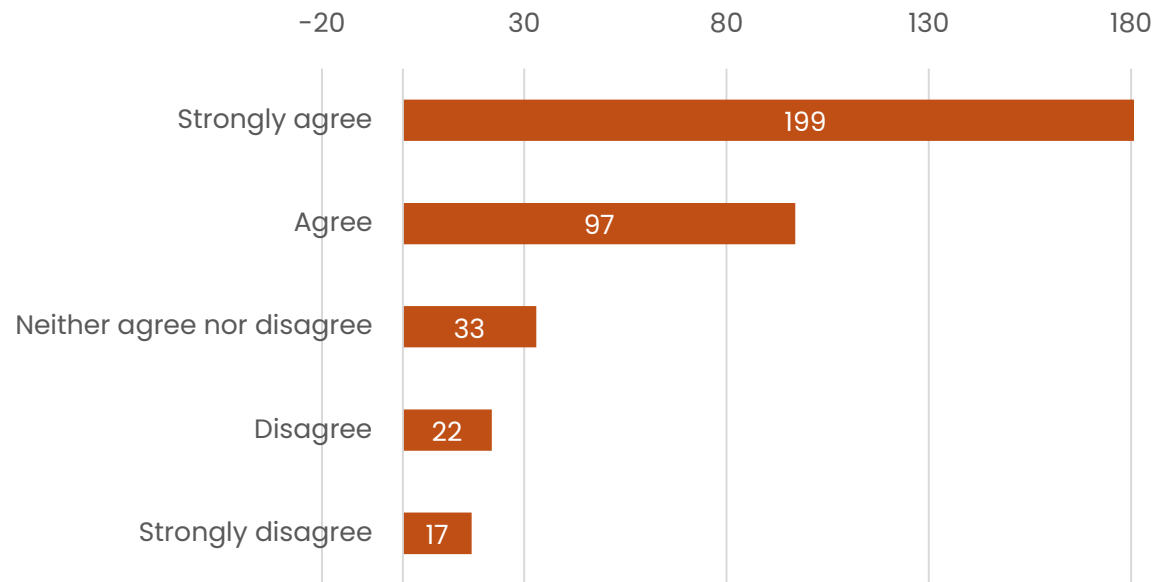
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "Not if it's going to make the road too narrow."
- "Strongly disagree- this is taking away the individuality and character of Abergavenny!"
- "Nobody bothers much with either so again, waste of money."
- "Proposed improvements are not worthwhile and will make an insignificant impact if implemented."

Improvements to Angel Corner

54% strongly agree with the need to make improvements at The Angel corner with 26% agreeing, 9% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 6% disagree.

Figure 17 – Do you support the proposed improvements to the Angel Corner?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Accessibility

- "It is very difficult to try and cross the road by the bakery as no one these days has got 5 seconds to stop and let pedestrians pass. It should concentrate more on pedestrians rather than cars. Especially if we are trying to incorporate the lower part of the town coming from the bus station."
- "I suggest the traffic lights are upgraded to allow contra flow traffic control around Angela corner. It must be a "Smart " control system that can monitor the traffic flow in both directions to avoid traffic queueing behind the lights."
- "I would also restrict the size of Lorries and buses that can cross the town 20 ton plus Lorrie's should be diverted around the town."
- "Replace the tactile paving at Angel Corner (and opposite). Preferably with metal studded pavers. Traffic cutting the corner has worn current ones away. BEST OF ALL de-trunk the A40 through town and place signage (quick win/cheap option in the scheme of things - I do appreciate SWTRA charge huge prices for inspection and signage) to redirect traffic along the Heads of the Valleys 465."

2. Footfall

- "I think this would definitely make people more inclined to explore this area more. I have seen many people get to this corner and struggle to cross the road. Many turning back up the street, missing out Part of Cross St etc."

3. Road Network

- "There was a proposal to re-route the A40 to go over from Brecon Road, over the bridge and then join the Heads of the Valleys road rather than going through the centre of town. The amount of times we'd seen lorries getting stuck with the turn at this point as their sat nav brought them this way by following the A40 trunk road."
- "Corner is one of worst & dangerous places in Abergavenny - 90degree turn no places to cross - constant traffic and dreadful parking practices by some vans cars etc. poor pavements as well - shops need to refresh their shop fronts as well - tatty end of town when it could be excellent welcome."
- "Angel Corner is the worst bottleneck for pedestrians and vehicles. Number 1 priority."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

4. Road Network

- "The proposed improvements are unclear. Corner definitely needs to be made safer for pedestrians. Prohibiting heavy vehicles from the route between 9.30-4.30 would help."
- "Not sure how feasible it is because of the A40."
- "A form of pedestrian/bleeper crossing from empty Amanda Jane shop to Angel Hotel is essential. This is a dangerous corner."
- "I feel underwhelmed and that traffic is still king. I would like to see much more effort and ideas into how the cars, buses and Lorries could be diverted away from this section, so it can be pedestrianised, including the 1-way street that leads up to the castle."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

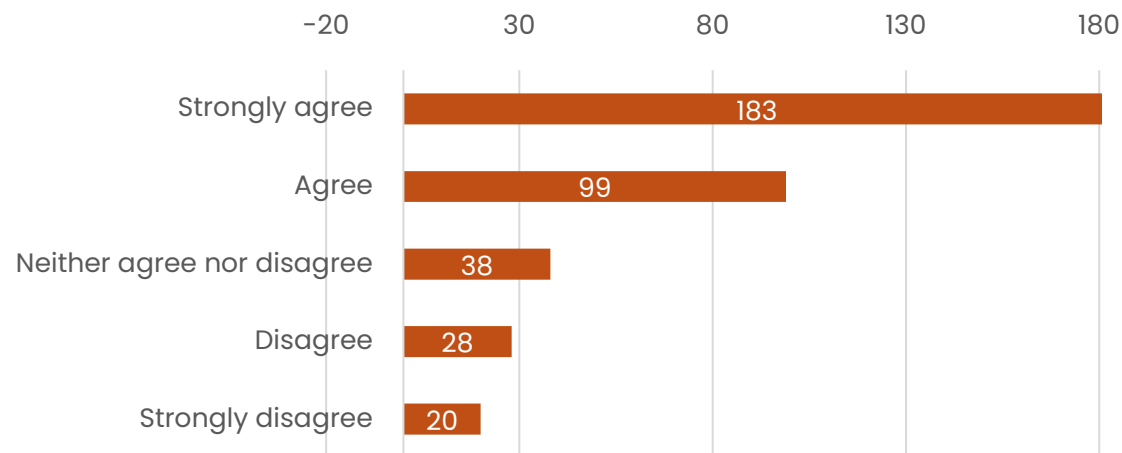
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "Lorries will end up using Llanfoist bridge."
- "Above drawing is pie in the sky - artics and buses need to turn the corner and as unpalatable as it is, there seems no countermeasures suggested??"
- "The A40 is a busy road that large HGVs use to get to Brecon because of the weight limit on the river bridge. traffic light controlled crossings would be safer than the shared space type of pavement. HGVs and pedestrians should not be sharing space."
- "Waste of money, it's safe as it is."

Improvements to Upper Cross Street

50% strongly agree with the need to make improvements to Upper Cross Street with 27% agreeing, 10% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 8% disagree.

Figure 18 – Do you support the proposed improvements to the upper Cross Street that make it more people friendly and continues to support street activity?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. The Plan

- "Wonderful!"
- "The pedestrianisation of the rest of the town centre has been a great improvement. Upper Cross Street can be closed to traffic and the Brewery Yard car park only accessed and exited from Lion Street. "

- “More places for our young people, more improvements that are children and young people focused. Give our young people especially older children, some thoughts in your way of improving the streets. There is nothing there that is suitable for them.”
- “Take guidance from other European countries that make their streets more friendly to young people and young people.”
- “See the new additions to Broad Street in Oxford, where a wide road has become a really vibrant public space. There are pop-up food stalls, lots of bicycle parking. Consider bringing some colour into the design. There are other options than grey paving! Broad Street has this lovely geometric pattern in yellow that compliments the planting and just brings a lot of life to the space.”

2. The Cabins

- “The huts have had their day and no longer look attractive.”
- “Remove the 'pandemic cabins' and have removable street furniture. CLEARWAY tactile paving through for blind/partially sighted.”

3. Closure

- “Could raised bollards be used instead of gate – like Pontypridd town centre.”

Comments from “Neither agree or disagree”.

Those with neutral views mentioned:

1. Access

- “I like pedestrianisation but access is still required for business and hopefully “pavement cafes/restaurants” will still be encouraged to give continental feel when weather allows.”
- “Why is it open on a Sunday when there are events and markets going on? Its needs to be consistent.”

2. Character

- “I would miss the lovely pennant slab pavements currently here.”

- "Not convinced it will support street activity and retailers and hospitality lining that street. Needs a clear zone for them to occupy, delineated physically, with a new kit of parts to allow them to install well designed shelters for their customers from inclement weather (both heat and rain) in the street. It all looks to twee and tidy. Bench forms as shown don't allow for face-to-face conversations. No sign of how 10.00am to 4.00pm control of that space will be conducted."
- "Improve the state of building on corner of Market Street/Cross Street."

3. Market Street

- "Need to give greater attention to Market Street as part of this proposal."
- "I would like to see aesthetic improvements to the corner of market street and proper signage to lead people from the high-street down-market street, the businesses at the top of market street do not accurately reflect what is on offer further down."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

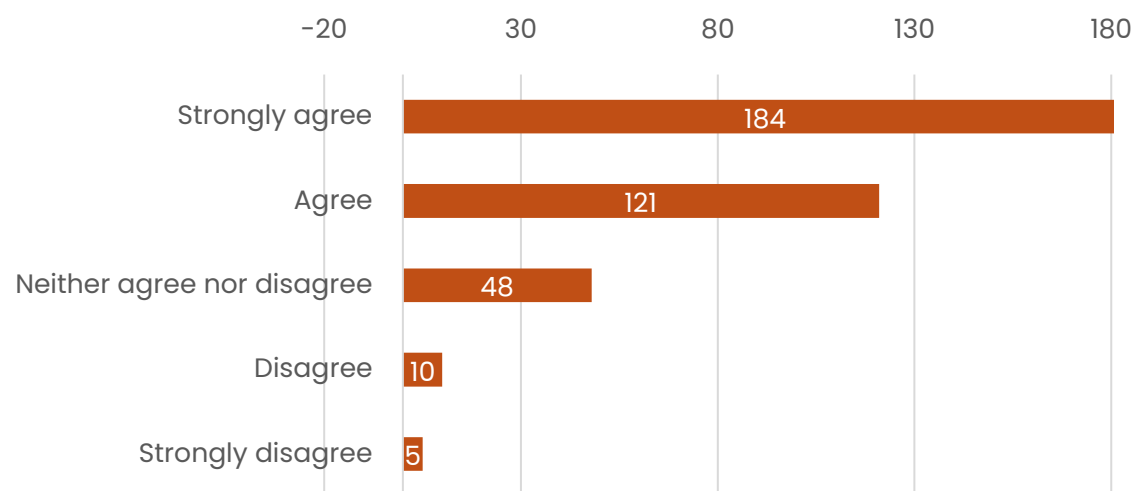
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "Waste of money it's good enough."
- "Personally, I think the road should be reopened."
- "This will ruin the town. WE need lower business rates to attract businesses, not to drive them away. This project is just a waste of money."
- "Already quite good."
- "Proposed improvements are not worthwhile and will make an insignificant impact on street activity if implemented."
- "Leave as is. It works well and everyone understands timings. Little cabins are fine. Everyone understands tarmac/ parking."

Improvements to Indoor Market Hall and Brewery Yard

50% strongly agree with the need to make improvements to the Indoor Market Hall and Brewery Yard with 33% agreeing, 13% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 3% disagree.

Figure 19 – Do you support the proposed improvements to the indoor Market Hall and upper Brewery Yard that support its operation, character and as a hub for year round activity?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. The Experience

- "The market needs to maintain its current feel as that is the main draw."
- "This is one of Abergavenny's strengths- be careful to build on it, not destroy it."

- "This is a fabulous venue that could be used for many more activities, celebrations etc throughout the year."
- "The market is the hub of abergavenny - anything to enhance it would be useful."

2. The Improvements

- "Only small improvements needed. There have already been many improvements in recent years, and these need to be bed down and be assessed."
- "Very important to retain the market hall as a centre of access and especially ensuring that commercial stall holders can continue to use the space."
- "The brewery yard is already a brilliant example of placemaking. Community initiatives like the annual art installations in the market are fantastic. There are various schemes run out of the market (ebike trial scheme) that are not well publicised."
- "Would like to see more ambitious plans to improve the market building itself to work towards this goal. Improve signage so visitors can see what is on offer in and around the hall."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

1. Young People

- "If that photograph is retaken in the coming years, it would be FABULOUS to see young people hanging out in the space. The Town needs to hook in to the 'next thing' post 'traditional' market stalls."

2. Practical Observations

- "The quality of acoustics is appalling and needs improving for festivals."
- "Just repair the cobblestone will be enough."
- "Minimal proposals suggested - tensile structures and awnings. Further investigation needed. It works well as it is community hub with all events and library/ council info as well as theatre."

3. Events and Activities

- “Antiques fairs, food fairs, music, classic car shows, eating and drinking events, bring your own meal, dog shows, boot sale, bigger Saturday markets, etc etc but make this area the place to come to in Abergavenny but don't charge to enter or just a minimum amount.”
- “Massive asset to town – so much more potential – evening cinema – music events – need for more variety – book markets – craft – theatre – public speaking events – guest speakers – great space. Brewery yard is totally under-utilised.”
- “Recognise that Community Learning needs a larger space. Former Community Learning building on Old Hereford Road had 3 classrooms, a kitchen and garden available 9am to 9pm. Now restricted to part time use of Community Room in the library and temporary use of Mayor's Parlour. High number of Community Learning classes have been cancelled, causing real cuts in service provision. Needs an accessible new space with access to parking nearby to help disabled people access community learning classes: consider old library building and create a new community learning hub by the cinema and improved square.”
- “The market as it stands has gone downhill in terms of vendors and hasn't moved with the times. Investment in people and looking for new ideas needs to be undertaken as the fabric has received significant support over the last 15 years with the brewery yard scheme and market/hub works.”

Comments from “Strongly Disagree” and “Disagree” Respondents.

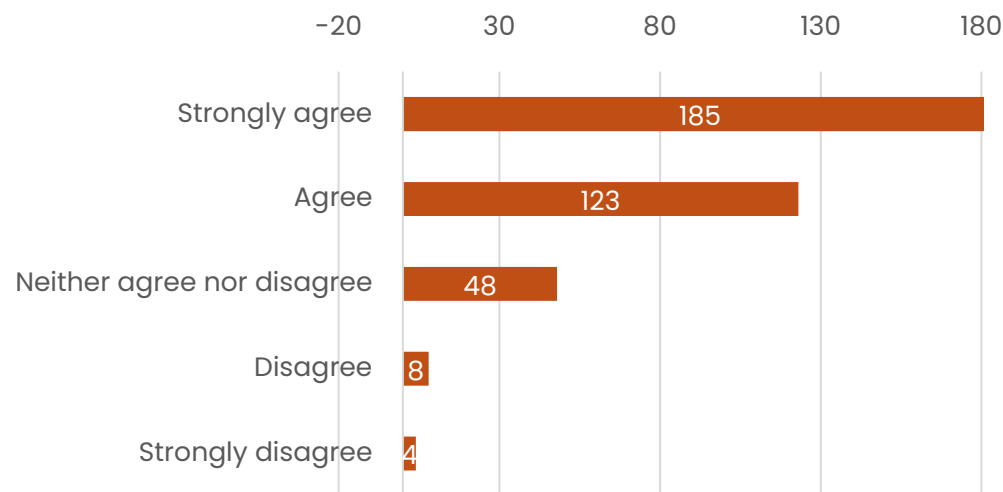
Those who disagreed often cited:

- “We've spent enough money on these areas.”
- “You are throwing more money at something which clearly isn't working. You have already invested in the market.”
- “I think the market area is fine as it is and shouldn't be a priority.”
- “What about putting money into valuable services that have lost their venue? Such as Community Learning, who provided essentials opportunity for those most at need. ”

Support Bailey Park Investment

50% strongly agree with the need to support Bailey Park improvements with 33% agreeing, 13% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 3% disagree.

Figure 20 – Do you support Bailey Park with community activism and civic pride, better linkages to the town centre and Fairfield car park and to also explore enhanced facilities for young people to meet in a positive and safe space?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Activities and Amenities

- "More facilities for young people e.g. decent skate boarding."

- "A cafe and open air pool would be excellent."
- "Bring back the lido."
- "A skate park is a great idea as teenagers seem to have little to do."
- "A youth shelter may be appropriate. "
- "The park requires more funding to improve the facilities for families and make secure to avoid damage / destruction. The pavilion would make a good cafe and more sporting facilities like tennis courts etc."
- "A cycle pump track should be constructed in the gap between the playground and the asphalted flat area."
- "Definitely. Strongly miss the swimming pool. Such happy times. Splash pad? Attract young families!"
- "Strong need for a youth club, youth events, safe spaces for young people to gather. Consider adding picnic tables, table tennis tables, improve access to sports eg netball/basketball/cycling/skateboarding in the park."

2. Maintenance and Management

- "Thanks to Friends' groups and Keep Abergavenny Tidy group who pick up after the parties, gatherings and young folk who leave behind empty pizza boxes, cans, etc."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

- "Stop dog walkers letting dogs off leads. The response when reminding a dog walker with 2 dogs they should be on a lead was " who's to stop me". Its no good having rules if they cannot be replaced."
- "Bailey Park is a great space. More could be done to improve the entrance from Fairfield by the Rugby Club."
- "Budget for more events for young people and the facilitation on in situ workshops in Bailey Park. Opening a cafe/small events space.. Budget to research successful park regeneration projects, with the specific focus on well being and young people. Integration of community made and commissioned local large artworks."
- "There needs to toilets for people who visit the park."

- "Would like to see use diversified away from sport alone – during the pandemic families and young people had more opportunity to use the park for picnics, games etc. currently men's rugby/sport is prioritised, would like to see more balanced approach which meets the needs of everyone– younger people, women and families, older people especially."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

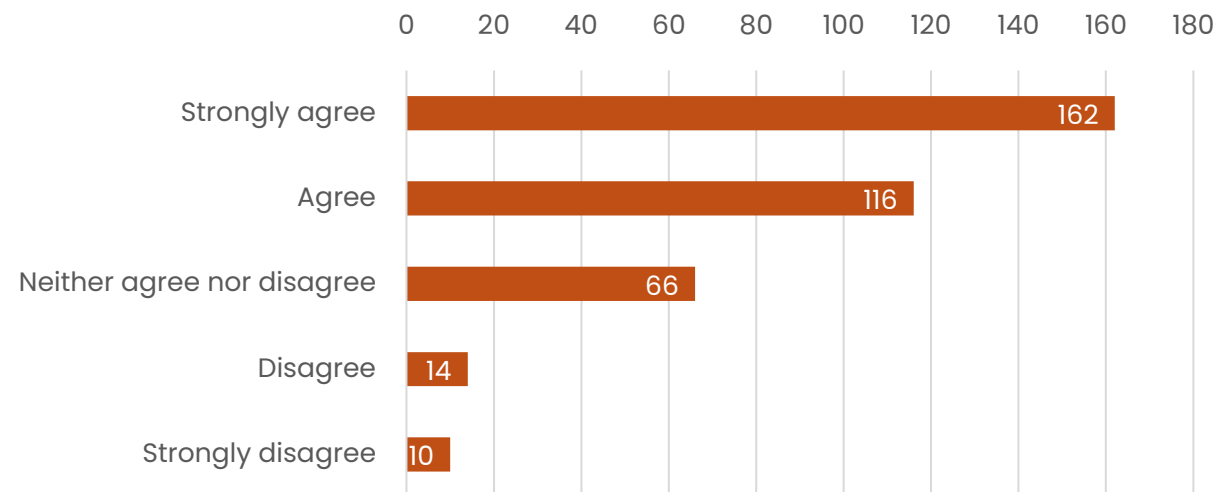
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "I think the links are fine."
- "Don't waste money, fill in pot holes."

Improvements to Gabb Square

44% strongly agree with the need to make improvements to Gabb Square with 32% agreeing, 18% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 4% disagree.

Figure 21 – Do you support the proposed improvements to Gabb Square that improves the setting, character and use of the space and its relationship to its streets, key note buildings and linkages with Lewis Lane and Frogmore Street?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

1. Character

- "It is a bit scruffy but it has the potential to be a focus not just a passing point."
- "Love the look of it – really hoping to keep the cinema as a community cultural hub of some kind."

2. Activity

- "Excellent idea for people to meet with a takeaway & chat."
- "This area is obviously close to my heart and one of the biggest issues is parking, we have lost the library, courts and police station all of which generated lots of traffic so I got lots of double yellow lines but not now."
- "It would be beneficial to the town to redevelop underutilised land in the area and relocate use inappropriate to a town centre location."
- "Budget and support for the cinema to continue as a creative community space. Better use of the Old Library as a community space to encourage more footfall to this area."

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

Those with neutral views mentioned:

- "Not until a scheme is in place for the old Richards space which would lend itself to being a square with small shops around it."
- "Stopping traffic from turning left out of Princes Street will help reduce parking loads."
- "Yes, but we subtle paving design that reflects the qualities and colours in the town."
- "Yes but again don't overdo it and any green areas must be maintained and not allowed to decay - not in favour of degrading all of towns authenticity."
- "The reason St Johns square is so successful is that it has permanent seating and table surfaces that allow people to talk to each other face to face. While this seating arrangement shown here with planting (maintained and designed by who) protects those on the square (triangle) from cars trying to park and the passing traffic, it may not encourage that sociability. Does the owner of the Grofield want to inhabit the square? One of its challenging qualities is the blank facade its full length created by the cinema use. They could with the right kit run outdoor cinema in the better months, projecting onto that blank wall; but the space needs to be designed with the thought in mind that the cinema may not survive and what is

most likely to replace it... social rent housing? The lower part of Baker Street seems the same width as the upper part and yet one is one-way and the other is two-way. Shouldn't its design recognise that."

- "Needs to include whatever may be proposed for the Richards site in order for the area to make sense as a whole."

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

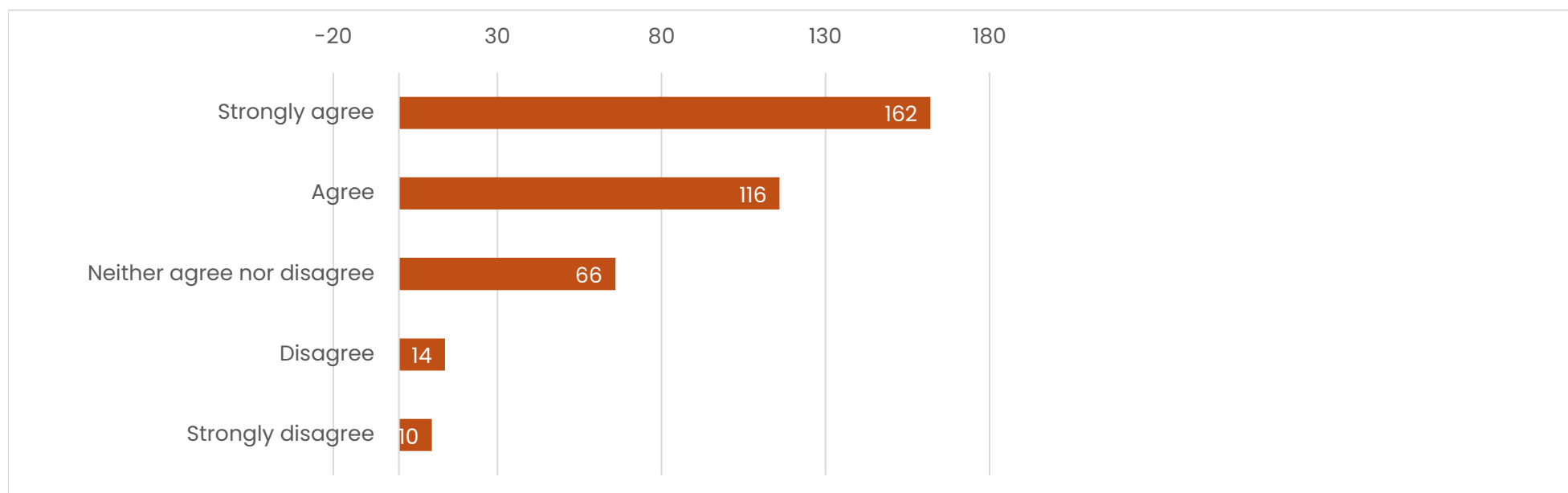
Those who disagreed often cited:

- "The landscaping shown is soulless and better suited to an urban environment than a beautiful rural market town."
- "This seems to be less of a priority than other proposals."
- "The illustrations are very misleading, as they exaggerate the distances between buildings."
- "Expensive and not a high priority."

Improvements to Town Centre Accessibility

44% strongly agree with the need to make improvements to town centre accessibility with 32% agreeing, 18% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 4% disagree.

Figure 22 – Do you support the need to improve accessibility across the town centre within streets, junctions, spaces and to provide for changing places facilities and enhanced shop-mobility provision, in addition to water-refill points on streets and improved cycle stands in the town centre?



Source: Let's Talk Monmouthshire survey n=368

Comments from "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" Respondents.

- "That sounds like a good idea with water refills changing rooms for baby's & toilets cycle racks would get more people to come into town."

- "Changing place toilets needed linking with shop mobility facility improvement."
- "Power-point of 'access hot-spots' composed by disabled resident on its way."
- "Better access and parking – better signage for Fairfield and extent of pedestrianised areas."
- "This would be a good thing. I have a stoma and need to use accessible toilets and a changing area would be welcomed."

Those who agreed with the proposal frequently mentioned:

Comments from "Neither agree or disagree".

- "People misusing facilities need to be taken into consideration."
- "Space in car park for disabled users. New shopmobility will there be appropriate parking spaces – spaces for 16 scooters and 10 wheelchairs and turning space in front. Also dropped kerbs in front. Needs to be on a bus route to shopmobility. Please consult with shopmobility about this."
- "Changing places toilet is great."
- "Bike hire scheme, similar to Boris bikes in London."
- "Definitely new toilets by the side of Cibi Walk."
- "Absolutely – there should be better bike facilities and refill points! And make sure it is more accessible for all."
- "These types of improvements should be given top priority as probably many can be achieved within the limited budget likely to be made available in the foreseeable future."

Those with neutral views mentioned:

Comments from "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" Respondents.

- "As a care home manager, we find it difficult to take clients into Abergavenny. Although pebble streets look nice they are terror wheelchairs and there is limited accessibility in general."

- "See above regarding planning for the future – biodiversity and climate change but also provision for active travel (walking / cycling buses for schools), families and particular recognition of the needs for women and girls to enjoy the space with confidence."
- "Movement along pavements for the visually impaired is very problematic. While planters and public seating are welcome, these along with existing street furniture, cafe outdoor seating structures and enclosures present difficult and dangerous navigational challenges. The existing arrangements and placements need thoughtful assessment and alterations made to enable inclusive use for all residents and visitors."

Those who disagreed often cited:

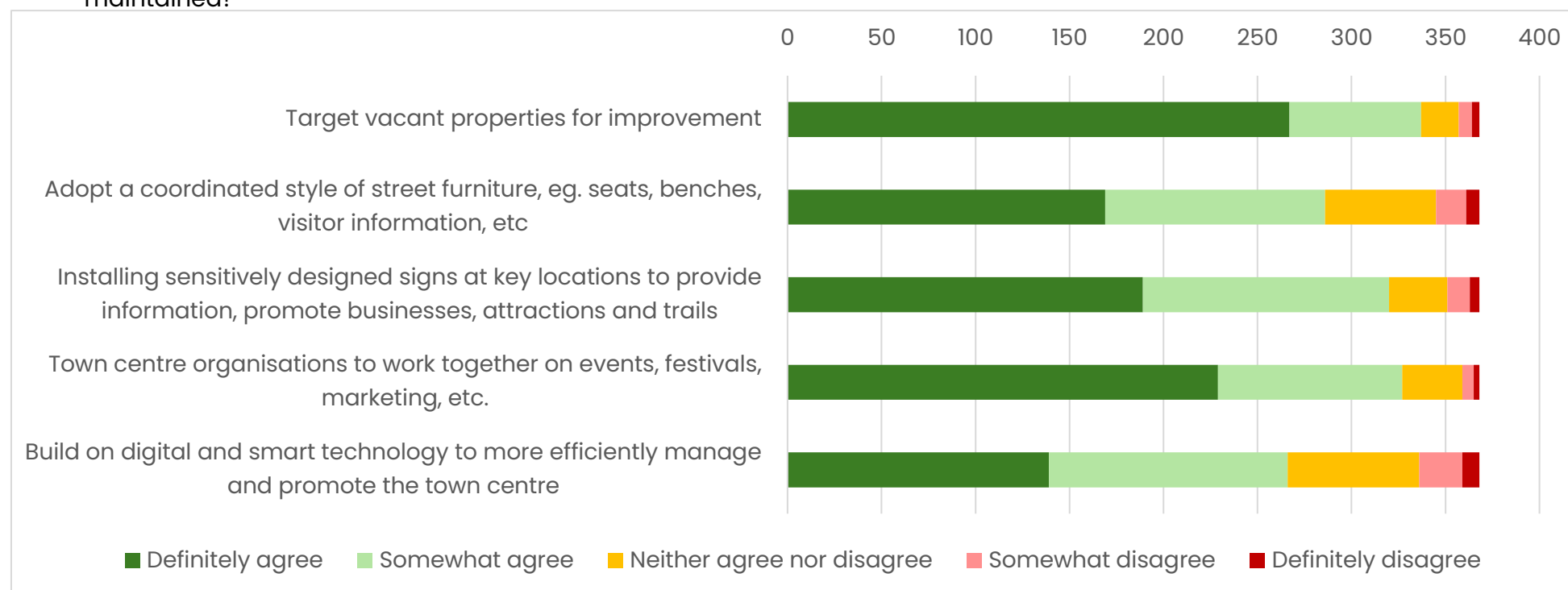
- "Who will pay for this? Stop wasting money! Lower business rates and council tax, encourage business to move here instead of driving us away with high rates! This is just a vanity project."
- "Water points. Waste of money."
- "Its a characterful town centre and not a dressing room/refreshment centre. Please don't overegg and spoil this lovely town."
- "The pedestrian area in the town centre should not be a place for cyclists. There are several cycle stands in town that are rarely used. Drivers leave their cars in car parks, why can't cyclists do the same? If provide with good, secure facilities they would be encouraged to cycle to town. Providing more or larger stands in town would clutter the town and in reality unlikely to attract more cyclists."

All Open Comments – See appendices

Figure 23 outlines how respondents relate those draft proposals that relate to the way the town centre should be managed and maintained with the greatest degree of agreement centred on targeting vacant properties for improvement.

Following in second place, ensuring town centre organisations continue to work together on events, festivals, marketing etc. is seen as important by respondents, with building on digital and smart technology seen less important across these measures, albeit 72% either definitely or somewhat agree with the proposal.

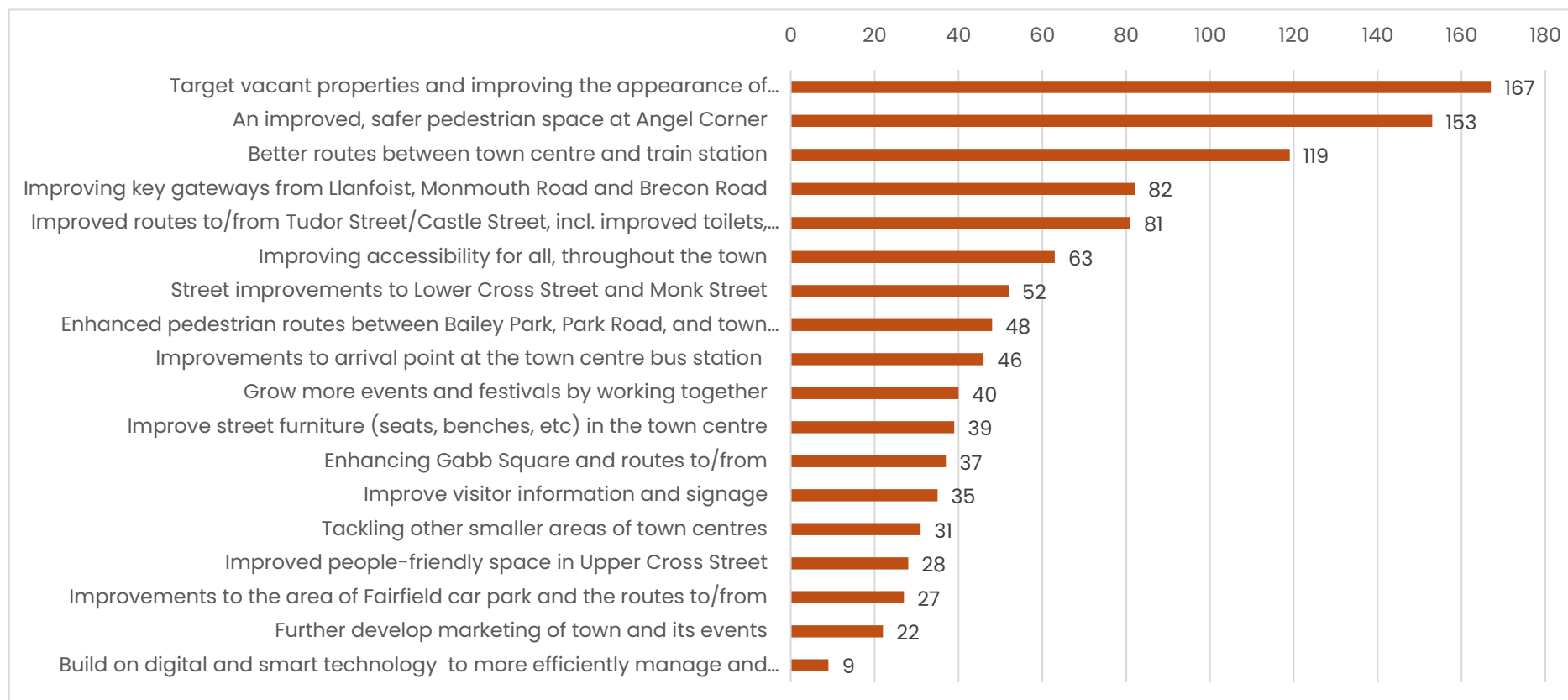
Figure 23 – To what extent do you agree with the following proposals that improve the way the centre is managed and maintained?



Source: Let's Talk Survey n=368

When respondents were asked to choose their top three priorities for the town centre Figure 24, i) targeting vacant properties ii) an improved, safer pedestrian space at the Angel corner and iii) better routes between town centre and train station are identified.

Figure 24 – Top 3 Priorities



Source: Let's Talk Survey n=368

Quick Wins

- More benches and seats
- Improved toilets
- Cycle racks
- Water refill points
- Town centre property improvement grants
- Signage and transport to and from station
- Signage, accessibility, waymarking
- Replace old playground equipment
- Signage from A456 and A40
- Accessibility audit
- Signage and waymarking.
- Shuttle from train station
- Improve signage
- Bring all sectors together first
- Just update what we already have.
- Accessibility audit.
- Tree planting
- More social housing, improvements to shop fronts, paving to be fixed
- Llanfoist Bridge
- Changing places
- In my opinion there is an immediate need to entice bespoke shops to the town to take up the empty units.
- Digital marketing
- Updates to Cross Street
- I like bi-lingual signs
- Jet wash streets
- Town centre organisations to work together to promote events.
- Community activism
- Putting more for the kids
- Unsure
- Events & vacant properties.
- Zebra crossing Monmouth road to castle meadows.
- Temporary urbanism in vacant shops
- "Working together is the key.
- Benefit to cost ratio should be considered ahead of speed of execution.
- Lower Cross Street and Park Street area a priority.
- The area outside Shackleton's/ the old buttons, is tatty, full of confusing signage and a huge CCTV post.
- Improving access, road development and town centre improvements
- Improved signage, toilets, improve shop fronts.
- Promotion and integration of key assets like the Borough and Melville

What's Missing

Bus Services

The quality, frequency, routes and timetable of bus services within the town centre, which connect to and from rural villages and also to key destinations such as The Grange hospital are mentioned by numerous respondents. The proposal for a bus service to and from the train station is welcomed.

Infrastructure

The future demands from an increase in the town population on local services and on the town centre's infrastructure is seen as significant by some respondents that needs to be planned for.

Parking Strategy

The need to review parking across the town centre is identified by local residents and businesses, specifically the roles of specific car parks and users, charging (e.g. suggestion of first hour free) and ways to recover parking fee when spending a certain amount in the town centre.

Reroute A40

The presence of the A40 in the town is identified as a key challenge across the whole consultation, with a body of responses seeking a wider strategic review of the road network, specifically the re-routing/de-classification of the A40 which would help lessen some of the HGV traffic through the centre. Linked to the proposed active travel proposals at Llanfoist Bridge, there is the need to route HGVs and through traffic over the A4143 Merthyr Road.

Supporting Small Businesses

A number of respondents point to the need to look at the fiscal pressures on small businesses, with the need to review and lower business rates to sustain existing shops and services and also attract new investments.

Young People

Current and future provision for young people is highlighted by numerous respondents. Ways to improve existing play provision and how could more be made of Bailey Park for young people is raised in the consultation. Against the backdrop of an ageing town population, the town centre needs to appeal to families with younger children. Ways to

provide spaces for teenagers that allow them to hang out or to engage in town centre life needs to be explored.

Other Community Provision

Some specific mentions about Adult Community Learning in the town and ways to improve provision since it has moved away from its own building. A building that brings the town together and could participate in wider events in the town e.g.: arts, writing, food festival, which is more than just deliver education, employability and leisure classes: it can be a safe place to bring together everyone in the community, with a particular focus on people with disabilities.

Housing

Opportunities to provide for in-town living, prioritising the provision of social rent housing is identified by a number of respondents as well as homes for younger people that is linked to town centre workspace.

Climate Change

The need to adapt to climate change is highlighted by a number of respondents.

Specifics include the need to plan and provide for higher temperatures in terms of shading within streets and gathering areas and also shelter during inclement weather. The role of biodiversity and role of nature in adding to connections across the town centre is also mentioned that meets with a place based approach to designing public spaces and routes.

6. Appendix A: Email correspondence

Abergavenny and District Civic Society

ABERGAVENTNY TOWN CENTRE PLACEMAKING PLAN

RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT PLAN, APRIL 2025

1 Background

In 2020 the Welsh Government launched a Design Commission for Wales Placemaking Charter that puts quality, sustainability and community at the heart of planning. Placemaking involves 'working collaboratively across sectors and disciplines to comprehensively consider the future development of distinctive and vibrant places'. One hundred million pounds was subsequently allocated for a 2022–2025 Transforming Towns programme to improve town centres, and locally led Placemaking Plans, building local confidence and action, are to provide the context for bids for financial support and other investment over the next 10–15 years.

Together with town and community councils, in 2024 Monmouthshire County Council initiated the preparation of these plans, via consultants, for Abergavenny, Monmouth and Magor-Undy. There are already similar plans for Caldicot, Chepstow and Usk.

The Civic Society was pleased to be invited to join the steering committee for the Abergavenny plan and has contributed significantly during the preparation of this draft plan. A well-attended open meeting of the Society in September 2024 gave our members and guests an opportunity to make an early contribution to the consultants' plan preparation process, and this was followed by the submission of a preliminary statement of the Society's ambitions for the town centre.

2 Summary Conclusion

2.1 Subject to some important reservations and detailed comments that follow, the Civic Society is pleased to support the draft plan, but equally we await the response of those who use the town centre and have businesses in the town. The final plan needs to be presented differently to convey the priorities of those who use the town centre.

2.2 In October 2024 the Society submitted to the consultants its initial thoughts on the plan to be prepared, together with a list of over thirty potential projects that might find a place in the final outcome. Most of these are in some way mentioned in the draft proposals and this response draws attention to others. There is nothing in the proposals to which we object, but we have made a considerable number of comments. With the benefit of public consultation and further consideration by the steering committee and the consultants, we hope that the final plan will list and, as far as possible, prioritise the actions to be taken to deliver the proposals, starting with achievable quick wins.

3 General Comments

3.1 Will the plan provide what is needed? The plan recognises the comparative recent success of Abergavenny's town centre – the test is whether the plan will enable the centre to maintain or strengthen its position in a competitive environment. We must be wary of an assumption that the fate of a town centre will depend on environmental works. A town centre with safe and attractive streets, accessible via ample and reasonably priced parking and public transport, will only thrive if there are lots of other reasons to visit and no deterrents to investment. Retailing and banking have found more effective ways to reach customers, and for decades education, health and other public services have opted for the advantages of centralised scale outside town centres. Does the plan make proposals that will reverse these trends? Are there opportunities to introduce more homes in or near the centre, perhaps by relocating uses that do not need a central location? Can the tourism potential be raised by improvements to private property as well as to the public realm, by more entertaining events and strengthening the heritage appeal? This plan, constrained by its budget and brief, seems to be mostly about actions that might be followed up by the local authorities. This may be what they wanted, but more imaginative ways of multi-sectoral transformation of the town's prospects might have been explored.

3.2 At a time of great economic uncertainties, a 10–15 year town centre plan needs to strike a balance between ambition and likely reality. It is helpful to consider changes over the past fifteen years before anticipating what might be achieved by 2040:

The Brewery Yard transformation was completed in about 2010. There was concern about the centre's future in the mid-2010s, but traders rejected the opportunity for a Business Improvement District. The 2016 Eisteddfod led to several years of extensive public realm improvements, enabling a unique and lasting development of pavement cafes during the pandemic. The livestock market was replaced by the Morrisons store by 2018, and the Town Hall, library and theatre have been remodelled more recently. Despite some loss of multiples and banks, Abergavenny appears to have been comparatively fortunate at retaining footfall and attracting funding in the past fifteen years, perhaps to the extent that public investment in other towns will now be preferred. The County Council will need to consider whether the plans for six town and village centres are realistic or over-ambitious.

3.3 The draft plan proposes three substantial public realm improvement projects, in Tudor Street, Cross Street and Gabb Square. Completion of all three may be over-ambitious, though it should be noted that public safety measures are important elements of at least two, and those elements should be given high priority. **Without setting aside the need to deal with strategic issues and to fully achieve these projects, we feel that the emphasis of the final plan needs to shift from what DCfW calls a 'could do' list to a prioritised Action Plan of**

manageable works and tasks, with indicative cost bands and perhaps grouped under headings that reflect potential funding sources, such as Safe Active Travel, Greening the Town Centre and Street Enhancement. Other towns may be preferred for substantial government funding, so it will be especially important that Abergavenny uses all opportunities that arise to strengthen its competitive advantages. The plan will need regular reviews.

3.4 Members of our executive committee have criticised the plan preparation process, preferring a ‘bottom-up’ approach, which would have started by asking visitors and residents to identify the problems and opportunities, big and small. The Society pressed for an early opportunity for public involvement, but the process has focussed on ‘stakeholders’. We hope that the final outcome with an Action Plan will be much the same as the result of a different approach might have been.

3.5 Concerns about the disruptive and polluting effects of often congested A40 trunk road traffic on the appeal of the town centre have been particularly evident in members’ responses. Sadly, preparation of the draft plan appears not to have engaged with the Welsh Government or its agency SWTRA on this topic. The Civic Society recognises that the prospects of total relief from through traffic are negligible but has for several years taken opportunities to press the County Council to ask for a study that considers the scope for using A4143 to divert more A40 through-traffic away from the town centre. This possibility is not mentioned in the draft plan. Proposals for Angel Corner and elsewhere depend on a fresh Welsh Government review of how A40 traffic through Abergavenny should be managed.

3.6 While the proposals have been attractively presented, a tight timetable and an aim to be concise have resulted in a number of instances of unclear meaning, especially for a lay audience. We suggest that the final plan should be checked for clarity by an independent editor – or AI.

3.7 We find the survey questionnaire disappointing and likely to lead to misleading or false conclusions. This is not the place to criticise every question, but most proposals are likely to be agreed or strongly agreed irrespective of costs, many of the questions cover multiple ingredients, and meanings are sometimes unclear. Hopefully, the space for specific comments will have been used for clarification of views. The opportunity to give views on the proposed quick wins precludes others, and the selection of three priorities from seventeen broad and uncoded proposals seems to be of little value for preparing an action plan. Few of the seventeen are likely to be delivered in full as one project. Again, the opportunity to add proposals or comment may help, but we fear that the survey may be of little help in preparing a prioritised Action Plan.

4 More Detailed Comments

We have encouraged our members to make their own responses to the consultation as reaching a consensus view of over 100 members would be difficult. Nevertheless, a number of more detailed comments have arisen and have committee approval.

4.1 'Our Vision and Goals': A Vision now seems to be an almost compulsory part of a plan. That for this plan – 'An Eventful Town' – is for an undefined future horizon and strangely focusses on more events in the town, a worthy objective that subsequently receives only a few references. Other qualities such as 'easy to explore', 'rich in culture, food, well-being and opportunity' and 'strong partnerships' hint at some of the plan proposals, but the Vision needs review if the main plan proposals are to deliver it. We appreciate and welcome the use of the Civic Society's strap line and offer this alternative vision that seems to relate better to the plan proposals:

'Preserving the best, improving the rest. A great place to live, visit and do business'

In 2040 this easy-to-reach compact Town Centre will continue to prosper because the steady strengthening of its appeal has sustained and attracted a wide range of thriving shops and other enterprises. Visitors will find a town that cares for their comfort, helps them to explore safe and attractive streets and a well-presented heritage, has a wealth of places for relaxation and refreshment, and many entertaining events.

It will be well-managed by a proud collaboration of the public, private and community sectors, all equally committed to their part in ensuring success.

Other Visions are of course available.

4.2 A few months' work on the plan might not be expected to produce an exciting project that could promote the town centre into a higher league, but we suggest that the collective built heritage and its stories may offer more potential than is apparent in the plan. The Plas Gunter project will be a significant new element, but a new approach to the presentation of the rather unexciting castle remains could be a catalyst for change. Recent works at, for example, Caernarfon and Hay Castles suggest a more relaxed attitude to change at ancient monuments and Grade I buildings.

4.3 The Goals focus on a Cross Street/Heritage Strategy. The Market Hall, and the Brecon Road/Frogmore Street edge of the centre. These then become 'strategic goals': 'Gateways and Arrival', 'From a Road to a Street' (A40), '21st Century Market' and 'Stringing Together Key Assets'. All rather clumsily expressed but hardly arguable – and moving away from the 'Eventful' Vision.

4.4 The second strategic goal relates to the need to review Welsh Government trunk road policies for Abergavenny, highlighted in para 3.5 above.

4.5 *'Overarching Plan'*: This seems to be the bridge from the Challenge and Opportunities plan and the Vision and Goals to the start of the proposals – perhaps better headed *'Towards a Plan'*. The remainder of the document/presentation amplifies this plan, starting with the entrances or 'gateways' to the centre especially as experienced by the car, bus or train visitor, then considering the arrival areas where people disembark, then some key destination areas within the centre before sweeping up some of the many other topics that have been addressed, though rarely in much detail. A final section on 'Quick Wins' recognises the steering committee's emphasis on the need for early results. Para 3.3 above has addressed another steering committee concern – that the plan might overemphasise costly public realm improvement schemes rather than a more achievable programme of works.

4.6 *Gateways and Arrival*: Many suggestions are made for improving the approaches to the town centre and all are worth further consideration.

4.7 *Aldi and Bus Station Area*: The striking gateway impact of the Abergavenny Hotel is followed by a characterless area that the Society has long proposed for enhancement, mainly by tree planting. The ATS and Aldi developments, especially the former, have been allowed to prioritise parking spaces over planting on their frontages, and an unused hydrogen charging station is an eyesore opposite. The placemaking plan recognises the problem and the area needs an improvement plan.

4.8 *Fairfield*: The plan identifies the need for improvements and the frontage to A40 particularly needs attention. The town's largest car park ideally needs an orientation hub building similar to that suggested for Castle Street, or at least signage to any facilities that may be provided in White Horse Lane, 100m away. The future of the disused toilets is not considered by the plan.

4.9 *Tudor Street and Castle Street*: Interesting outline proposals are made for slowing traffic and increased pedestrian safety where visitors cross from car parks to St John's Square. Perhaps in a simplified initial form, these proposals deserve a high priority – as do measures to slow traffic on Tudor Street. We also welcome the orientation hub proposal and note the suggestion that some form of cladding could enhance the Castle Street elevation of the Royal Mail building. Cladding could be a costly cosmetic treatment and unfortunately the plan makes no proposals for the regeneration of this underused building, which might be partly repurposed as the orientation hub. The future of this key building should be further pursued by the planning authority.

4.10 Recognition of the need to ease links between the town centre and Bailey Park is welcome but Welsh Government acceptance of a ‘courtesy crossing’ seems unlikely at this busy Morrisons access point on A40.

4.11 Also welcome is the call for a comprehensive waymarking strategy that will help visitors to explore the town more fully.

4.12 *Cross Street Destination Area:* Lower Cross Street needs enhancement; a Victorian row of six properties on the NE-facing side could be a striking feature with a unifying colour scheme. An outline scheme for improving the Angel Corner and Upper Cross Street is another welcome proposal but the former needs practical validation. Improving the safety of pedestrians and the disabled at this junction must be a high priority but will depend on Welsh Government support. The plan merely hints at a welcome shared space resurfacing of Lower Castle Street, a pedestrian link to the Castle, but we question whether current westbound signage this way to 530 parking spaces is wise; this traffic should perhaps be directed to the Fairfield car park.

Upper Cross Street is ripe for improvement and the outline scheme is a good basis for more detailing, perhaps in phases. No mention is made of the pressing need to remove or replace the in-carriageway pandemic refreshment kiosks here. MCC are understood to be reviewing their pavement café policy.

On Monk Street there may be a need for an active travel crossing of A40 at the Lion Street junction if local development plan proposals for housing east of the railway and A465 go ahead and B4233 (Lower Monk Street) connects to that area.

4.13 *The Market:* The importance of the regular markets held in the covered hall is unarguable, both as a place to shop and as an experience. The plan consultants are clearly aware of the need to protect the character of this high and extensive space, and our only comment at this stage is that great care should be exercised to respect this character when proposals are detailed. We hope that the views of traders have been sought on this matter.

4.14 *Bailey Park:* It is unclear why this leisure area receives attention whereas Linda Vista and Swan Meadow do not, but it is close to Morrisons (see 4.10 above) and a children’s play area near the Park Road entrance would serve the town centre. The town centre seems short of play areas close to the shops; one parent can stay with the children while the other does the shopping.

4.15 *Stringing Together Public Realm – Gabb Square:* This section includes an outline proposal for Gabb Square which is seen in the context of the potential improvement of Lewis’s Lane (where development opportunities may arise), the future use of the Carnegie Library building and the design of the redevelopment of the ‘Richards site’ (where we are aware of public suggestions that it should

include a small courtyard space). The proposal illustrates just one way of designing the Square. The area between the cinema and Baker Street certainly needs re-landscaping, probably as a restful area away from the shopping streets, but, attractive as it could be, the full shared space scheme does not seem to add much value to the centre's trading potential and deserves a lower priority.

4.16 A Town for All: When the plan was in preparation it was evident that the disabled, particularly the visually impaired, saw an opportunity to put right a number of obstacles to their movement around the centre. All new public realm projects should reach a satisfactory standard, but the proposed access audit and the works to remedy existing deficiencies should be a high priority – they are later listed as a quick win.

An active travel review is also supported, including cycle parking provision. The danger of irresponsible cycling in 'the pedestrianised area' is a frequent complaint (as are calls for more 'cycleways' in the town). Cycling in High Street and Nevill Street is already an offence (despite the latter being part of the National Cycle Network) but little enforced; responsible cycling in the eastern end of Frogmore Street, a 'shared space', is legal. These inconsistencies need to be resolved and lessons from other towns sought, as shared spaces are officially welcomed and common in the UK. At least 'share with care' signs may help and possibly CCTV.

This section could also have proposed a review of the town's bus services. There is no westbound bus stop on A40 between the bus station and Tesco; unused bus stops on Lion Street are a reminder of a proposal that Upper Cross Street and Market Street would be used by small local buses. This possibility should be reconsidered, as should the provision of a local service that links the train station with the town centre and Nevill Hall and/or north Abergavenny.

The provision of a high-quality Changing Places toilet at a point of arrival (Castle Street is suggested, but see 4.8 and 4.9 above) would be appreciated by many visitors but costly in terms of public funds. A high priority may depend on realistic opportunities to secure such funds.

4.17 Place Management: This section brings together a number of other suggestions for the final plan. A list of items under '*Property and Vacancy Management*' is disappointingly thin. This may reflect the limited capacity of MCC to engage in this matter, but at least mention might have been made of their efforts to secure the future of 1 High Street and the opportunity for change presented by the loss of 'Richards' buildings on Frogmore Street.

A single sentence headed '*Smart Town*' is similarly disappointing, hardly exciting awareness of possibilities offered by new technologies that could increase the

efficiency of the town centre's operation and visitors' enjoyment of it. Is there a need for a presentation of the benefits and costs of these possibilities?

'Street Management' calls for 'a unified suite of street furniture (seats, benches, bins, bollards, information and wayfinding systems, etc) and [to] agree locations for rest and dwell at key stopping points'. While we have called for more seating in the main shopping streets, suitable locations are limited and a unified suite may be setting the bar unnecessarily high. Rationalisation of street furniture, removing clutter, is a more realistic priority.

'An Eventful Town/Identity' is in effect a call for all relevant stakeholders to work together to market the town. This is clearly desirable and the Civic Society will play its part, modest though it may be.

4.18 Quick Wins: This list of examples is as close as we get to an Action Plan at this stage. Most reflect earlier proposals in the plan. The suggestion of artwork on Bailey Park railings, on a congested trunk road with a quite narrow footway, seems inappropriate. The Civic Society has contributed to the provision of murals in Bailey Park and this is a suitable point to mention the Society's recent efforts to work with others to develop and implement a Public Art Strategy. Our call for this has produced ideas but not yet expertise to take the suggestion forward. The retaining wall in Horsington's Yard, topped by Frogmore Street properties, presents a good opportunity.

The need for a town centre accessibility audit, followed by action on the ground, clearly responds to the needs of the substantial and increasing proportion of the population whose age and disability makes moving around the centre hazardous.

Our members have drawn attention to a number of other potential quick wins and other matters:

- Replace lost trees on Lion Street.
- Repair road damage at the Baker Street/Frogmore Street junction.
- Remedy the potential danger where Market Street meets Lion Street (right turn only for vehicles but westbound cyclists appear to have right of way across shared space).
- Provide direction signs on Park Road to Fairfield car park.
- The need to sustain Abergavenny's 'In Bloom' success (Place Management).
- Review the often-ignored ban on left turns from Prince's Street into Baker Street.
- The need to promote residential accommodation in the centre.

- The potential for a small viewpoint of the Usk Valley and the Blorengge from Castle Street car park.

Conclusion – see Section 2

DC/290425

Abergavenny Transition Town

ABERGAVENTNY TOWN CENTRE PLACEMAKING PLAN

RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT PLAN, APRIL 2025

Preface:

As one of the voluntary groups in the town, 'Abergavenny Transition Town' (ATT) along with 'Team Abergavenny', the 'Abergavenny Development Forum' (ADF) and the 'Abergavenny & District Civic Society' (A&DCS) participated with many other stakeholders and public representatives in the substantial public realm improvements to Abergavenny 2016-2020.

The Chair of ATT was invited onto the Steering Group for this Place- Making project. He has tried to keep the ATT membership informed of the various developments in the project, but have suggested that individual members should also submit comments directly to the project team.

We alerted members to your online survey and circulated the draft Placemaking plan shown in the Timothy Oulton outlet, Abergavenny.

1.0 Observations on process to date:

- 1.1 Inevitably large parts of this Placemaking Plan exercise have resulted in the collating of a sizeable number of large and small-scale potential physical improvements to the town's fabric, that have been talked about, but not acted on, for quite some time.

So in that sense, the process of building this Place-Making plan up from the suggestions of various groups of its citizens, has met the requirements of the Welsh Government (WG) / Design Commission for Wales's (DCfW's) demands for this sort of collaborative process (in line with WCFG Act thinking).

However what we might also have expected from hiring independent consultants, was some fresh thinking or challenges to those assumed lists. Some provocations to think outside the box. This does not seem really to have occurred.

Transition Town in this submission will suggest what some of these might have been. (See sections 4-6)

- 1.2 At the moment the draft report as it stands, prioritises its focus (as WG/DCfW assumes in its Place-Making policy briefing) on several

inevitably resource-heavy public-realm improvements, followed then by a long un-prioritised list of smaller improvements.

To be really useful to the town's future, and to ensure we can make some quick-wins, these 'also-ran' improvements need to be examined and prioritised under headings of 'potential funding sources', 'likely costs,' 'who manages them', and most importantly how do they fit into the various strategic visions which are assumed to be a transparent consensus of where various sectors of the town's citizens and visitors agree to move towards.

- 1.3 At the moment, as the report stands, it is quite difficult to see how the stated summary "*vision*" connects to those major public realm improvement projects.

2.0 Some broader questions

Although Transition Town will offer some detailed observations on those three prioritised public- realm improvement projects, we would like first to ask a series of questions for the report's authors to consider for their final draft.

- 2.1 Does the report's recommendations put too much weight on the experience of the first-time, possibly once-only visitor to the town, being overly concerned that investment in fabric changes to the town should be tilted towards serving that tiny sector of users of the town?
- 2.2 Would it not be more important, for example, to recognise that the low-wage economy which underpins the large hospitality sector of the town requires there to be a considerable increase in low-cost social-rent apartments in the centre of town to serve those workers and where might those be located and how might they be funded?
- 2.3 Does the report take sufficient cognisance of the RLDP's intended eastward expansion of Abergavenny and thus what impacts and demands that might make on various currently inadequate bits of active travel infrastructure, gathered together potentially around the approach to the A40 up Lower Monk Street and across the A40 into Lion Street, and thus the market and the rest of the town?
- 2.4 Despite current intransigence of the Royal Mail and BT to consider openly and publicly the future of their absolutely key town-central buildings and the way they currently deaden the adjacent streetscape, shouldn't we have in place an outline vision of what, through inventive retrofit design, could in the future be a major vibrant addition to the town's economy and housing offer on this site. This would in turn add to improving the

pedestrian movement from the Castle Street car park into town. (Shouldn't this be added to the current proposed project to make improvements to connect those coming from the Castle Street car park into St John's Square in a safer and more pleasant manner?)

- 2.5 Although there is considerable emphasis put on "*an eventful town*," do the prioritised public realm projects really serve that goal? How many of the smaller projects serve that goal? They should be prioritised.
- 2.6 Are we really maximising the usage and potential quality improvements to the Fairfield car park and its connection across the A40 to the heart of the town and to Bailey Park? Should we not be adding a further public changing place / toilet and cycle park facility (as proposed for the Castle Street car park) on the site of the former pensioners meeting place, as a substantial replacement to the inadequate public toilets on White Horse Lane?
- 2.7 Is too much visitor heritage improvement in the report focussed around the Gunter mansion project and its connections to St Marys, taking attention away from the changes that might really be required to bind the Castle, its museum and the former roman fort site on the edge of the distinct Castle Street plateau, into a more inclusively circular tour of the town's historic past? (The surface improvements for active travel up from Castle meadow to the Castle could be part of that improved historical circuit from Gunter Mansions to the Castle.)
- 2.8 There is little sign of increasing substantially the opportunities for increasing biodiversity in the town (one small example could be reinstituting the vandalised avenue of blossom-giving trees along Lion Street). There is no response to the potential of sheltering by tree-cover from increasing future heat-waves or improved surface drainage designed to cope adequately with future rain-storm management. What happened to the rainwater butts project to service the existing street planters? (The recent Morgan Sindell King Henry VIII new school project claims to have added 2000 trees to the town as a community contribution. Where are these located in the town?)

3.0 Additional Public realm additions: how much benefit?

3.1 Although not subjected to researched evidence, the succession of public realm improvements to Abergavenny Town centre 2016 – 2020 have, in a lot of people's experience, accounted for making living in, working in and

visiting Abergavenny a really pleasurable experience in its vibrant streets. This seems to have also maintained a relatively successful and stable retailing and hospitality- led economy with many other service-sector work fitting comfortably around that, and benefitting from it.

3.2 It is unclear whether the three new public realm projects proposed will serve those same objectives so successfully. Two of the three are potentially and reasonably driven mainly by the desire to create safer pedestrian movement for those on foot and with mobility issues, but Transition Towns concerns is whether in two of the three projects (Upper cross Street / Angel corner, and Castle Street car park connection to St John's Square) there is an over reliance on changes to material surface patterns and levels to solve what are far more complex spatial challenges, that have troubled the town's citizens for decades. They may require more radical thinking to solve them successfully. (see paras 4.0,5.0).

3.3 The third project, the Gabbs Square / Lewis Lane is a 'nice-to-have' but until the longer-term use of the former Carnegie Library is resolved and that it becomes clear how the massive former Richard's site will be reconfigured in use and spatially, and who might be the new owners of the cinema facility fronting that square, then maybe this should not be a leading priority.

4.0 Detailed reflections on the three public realm projects

4.1 Pedestrian and mobility user movements between Castle Street car park and St John's Square:

4.1.1 Any new design proposals for this area should not compromise a potential embracing of different uses and new routes across the current (closed-off) site of the Post Office and BT building and to the Castle Street arrival point by cars parking. (recladding the post office we would suggest is merely wasteful tinkering). The van exit from the Post Office marks the point near the south-east gate of the Roman Fort of Gobannium. This major opening was designed in the Post Office/ BT building in cognisance of that fact. It could become in the future another major pedestrian entrance route into the town linking directly across the current Post office van yard to Flannel Street. This consideration might require a re-positioning of the new changing place/ mobility scooter hire-point and bike park facility, that are planned for this area of the Castle Street car park in this Placemaking plan.

4.1.2 Tackling the speeding and volume of vehicles travelling east and west along Castle Street and Tudor Street, we would suggest, will require more radical rethinking than is proposed.

Has closing Lower Castle Street off the A40 to vehicles been considered (with only special permitted access for businesses and residents living off Lower castle Street) with its impact on traffic movement in the rest of the town, pushing those vehicles choosing to come into town from the east on the A40 up Lower Cross street, to go to the Fairfield or Morrison's car park for parking in town with electronic signage of car park spaces available in each location?

If this is not viable, should not two pavement build-outs on Castle Street with single lane priority, be installed, to slow traffic considerably, forcing both the Castle Street east and west approaches by vehicles to this important pedestrian crossing area, to be slowed considerably.

4.1.3 Could a more radical solution be to connect up the lower Byefield Lane Car park with a new road connection up the slope to the Castle Street car park, thus closing the current entrances and exits to the Castle Street car park, and thus have no vehicles looking for parking places occupying any of Castle Street, (except for allowing drop-off access to the church halls, funeral service and ballet/architects office and access to Angel Hotel car park). This would also allow Lower Castle Street to be closed to vehicles (except for delivery to Bakery and Angel Hotel side entrance, plus vehicular access to houses on Lower Castle Street). Lower Castle Street would be used primarily then by pedestrians, and cyclists?

4.1.4 Could we avoid calling any new servicing point in the Castle Street car park a "Hub" as we already have an Abergavenny 'Hub' in the Town Hall building with all its variety of services.

4.2 Active travel route improvements up from Castle Meadows via car park opposite Tudorgate surgery, crossing Tudor Street towards St John's square.

4.2.1 How the active travel route safely navigates the approach and arrival point at the current small car park opposite the Tudorgate Surgery really needs far more detailed exploration than simply a diagonal piece of road surface differentiation across Castle Street. How can pedestrians, those on mobility scooters, the blind and hard of hearing and increased numbers of cyclists, safely navigate the collision with this small car park at the top of a

quite steep gradient single narrow path to the Byefield Lane car park? This may require more radical detailed re-thinking.

4.2.2 There maybe should be exploration of a new separated, more gradual gradient path connecting the active travel route coming up from the Meadows, past the gates of Linda Vista, up a new path between the trees, up more directly to Tudor Street... possibly for cyclists use only?

4.2.3 Could this small car park opposite Tudorgate surgery be replaced entirely by more parking places being created between the trees, located on the southern side of Tudor Street opposite the surgery. This would then make this connection from St Johns Square to the Byefield lane car park safer and more pleasant for all other non-vehicle parking users, because there would be no clash with parking cars?

5.0 Angel Hotel corner: Lower Castle Street: Monk Street Junction

While it has often been thought that Lower Cross Street and Monk Street needed to be de-trunked and articulated lorries (particularly) be refused use of the Monmouth road entrance to the town, the option of going instead down the A465 bye-pass and then across Llanfoist bridge up to the Brecon Rd can never be a solution due to the narrowness of the Llanfoist bridge. (Surveys need doing on which company's HGV's going to what destination are using the A40 through town and why).

5.1.2 Building a completely new bye-pass across the Usk from the Brecon Road to the A465 is also a dream that is, it seems, never going to occur.

5.1.3 So do we have to face it that we cannot leave the pedestrian corner at *The George* as it is, even as part of a raised table and shared surface? Do we have to consider a more radical restructuring of that corner, that includes a restructuring of the architecture of The George at that corner, by cutting into the building, making a glazed inverted corner to the building at that point, offering a much more generous pavement space at ground level at that corner. Yes, it is a listed building, and there might be howls of objection, but how else to safeguard pedestrians at that crucial point?

5.1.4 Of course maybe with a comprehensive scheme to improve Beili Priory and the access from there to the rear (but main entrance) to Gunter Mansions, and better signalling and visibility of that route from the bus station car park, this might lead to less pedestrians wanting to come up to that dangerous corner at the George.

5.1.5 While serious rumble strips might be needed to slow vehicles turning up Lower Castle Street off Lower Cross Street, those rumble strips will conflict with those on the shared surface using mobility scooters, wheelchairs etc. So how are vehicles to be slowed? One solution might be traffic lights at this junction, with only one direction of vehicles at a time making that right angle turn at the George, thus narrowing the road element of that space. (Temporary lights were once installed at this junction when Lower castle street was closed for weeks due to maintenance of the Angel – it seemed to work and made the pedestrian experience at this junction far safer. It might also prevent articulated lorries and coaches bashing into the Angel Bakery glass frontages or taking off the lead corner flashing of the George!). But also note more radical solution para.4.1.3

5.1.6 Wont the new raised table at this major junction still require diagonal marking across whole surface to indicate the do-not-enter-junction-box unless one can see a clear route out of it? Will this patterning override the new surfaces and make it visibly read as a vehicle space?

5.1.7 There was no indication in the project drawing of the 10.00am – 4.00pm closing gate on Upper Cross street. Is that still part of the street management intentions or might we get rising bollards controllable from hopper buses coming up Upper Cross Street from the Station and bus station into town?

6.0 Upper Cross Street to Market Street

6.1.1 Hopefully the principle of the zone of space in Upper Cross Street currently defined by the row of temporary (covid-inspired) hospitality shelters, each related to the various street-fronting businesses on the left going down Upper Cross Street, and also the zone of linear space in the current road occupied by for example Luigi's exterior tables and chairs, will be retained for their continuing appropriation, for extending their hospitality offer. There needs to be some robust but thoughtfully designed new street-kit of parts to allow the erection of some level of shelter from inclement weather (heat and rain) to be offered.

6.1.2 If there is still some car-parking intended in Upper Cross street, then possibly the scheme would need a far more robust bollarding system (as Paris has in cast-iron or solid steel) to protect any street furniture than what we have currently around St Johns Square.

7.0 Final observations

The report should at least, in an appendix, list all the numbers and dates of meetings of the Steering Group and Stakeholder groups and the dates of the walk-about-town with other named representatives of community groups, and the engagement with King Henry pupils. Ideally names of members of both the Steering Group and the Stakeholder Groups should be included.

The authors of the report need to look carefully at whether they use the phrases “we considered/ planned/ designed and “Our” design and plans etc and consider instead whether it is better in the light of it being a collaborative shared process, that this personalisation is replaced by a more neutral way of describing the process.

 29.04.2025
Chair ATT



Abergavenny Placemaking Plan: a brief response on behalf of Abergavenny Cycle Group

4 May 2025

Abergavenny Cycle Group brings together local people who are doing active travel on a daily basis. We represent a diverse cross-section of people with different needs and capabilities: from cargo bike mums to older cyclists with reduced mobility to daily commuters to leisure riders and parents of children who want the freedom to get around by bike. We stand ready to help the town council and the county council further develop the placemaking plan as it relates to Active Travel and to advise on the most cost-effective ‘quick wins’.

The placemaking plan contains many excellent ideas for improving the town with a particular focus on the public realm in the town centre and creating a positive impression on visitors to the town.

In the consultation document there are a number of references to improving the pedestrian experience in certain locations and certain routes. There is little or no mention of how the experience of people using bicycles can be improved, other than an acknowledgement that the A40 is a problem. As one example, there is a reference made to “Bailey Park to Town Centre” as in need of improvement as a pedestrian thoroughfare. This is also a potential cycling thoroughfare, as indicated on the council’s Integrated Network Map (Route A22A).

There is a mention of a proposal to “Undertake a walking, cycling and horse-riding assessment and review” and this is welcomed but more detail is needed on how this review would be different from the existing Integrated Network survey work undertaken through the Active Travel (Wales) Act. There is plenty of survey work that has identified the problems and the barriers to active travel, what is now needed is action to tackle them.

At present the two main problems for cycling in the town are road danger - both the reality and the perception - and the challenges of one-way streets, shared spaces and pedestrianised areas that unwittingly create barriers to making safe and convenient journeys by bike.

Road Danger

Cars are larger and more numerous than at any time in the town's history. Traffic congestion is becoming a serious problem in several locations at certain times of day. Paradoxically, chronic congestion makes cycling a faster and more convenient way to get around town, however the sheer weight of traffic on the roads puts off many people from using a bicycle. This is particularly the case for routes that require riding on the A40, as the consultation document points out, but also applies to other busy roads such as Hereford Road and the A4143.

Providing safe, and pleasant routes for cycling in the town requires alternatives to using the town's arterial roads. The Lion Street cycle example of infrastructure designed to provide an alternative route are other examples where more could be done (e.g. more contraflow signage at the Frogmore Street end of Bakewell Street).

One way that the placemaking process could enhance the experience for cycling, at very little cost, would be better signage on the increasing number of streets where motor traffic has been replaced by 'shared space' for the benefit of pedestrians, cyclists, and users of wheelchair and mobility scooters.

Cross Street, Market Street, Frogmore Street have all recently received this treatment, either all day or between 10am and 4pm. However, there is insufficient signage to indicate that these are shared spaces. The result is that some pedestrians believe people should not be cycling, and there have been regrettable cases of verbal abuse of cyclists. Installing some simple signage at the time that these traffic orders were made would have helped to avoid this conflict. It's not too late to make up for this omission, and would be a very inexpensive quick win.

For many years High Street and Nevill Street have been closed to cycles despite the fact that both streets are relatively wide and open to cars for residential access and to lorries making deliveries. Adding to the confusion, National Cycle Route 42 runs down Nevill Street and there is signage indicating this. As things stand people do go ahead cycle on these streets as there are no suitable alternatives for certain routes. The situation would be improved if access were legitimised. As ever, the byword should be 'share with care'.



Requiring people on bikes to dismount and walk for a significant portions of short journeys around town is not an acceptable solution.

Other issues

There are many small physical tweaks that would measurably improve the experience of people getting around town by bike (whether local residents or visitors). The gate at the foot of Cross Street (by the Angel Hotel) requires cyclists coming up the street to mount the kerb and ride (or walk) on the pavement. Removable bollards would be a better solution.

The consultation document mentions cycle parking. There has been an increase in provision of cycle stands in the town centre in the past few years and this is welcome. There are some key destinations where stands are yet to be provided (e.g. in the grounds of the Castle) but the provision of cycle parking is less of a concern than the problems described above relating to road danger and cycling in shared spaces.

The Welsh Government has just committed £6m to a new Active Travel crossing of the Usk between Abergavenny and Llanfoist. For this investment to fulfil its potential, the routes into the town centre for both cycling and walking need to be safe, direct, pleasant, and easy to follow. This will require some detailed planning but the potential benefits are significant in terms of increasing mobility, reducing congestion and driving sustainable economic activity.

██████████ (Chair, Abergavenny Cycle Group)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 May 2025 21:01
To: MCC - Regeneration <MCCRegeneration@monmouthshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Abergavenny Placemaking Plan Consultation - May 2025

Dear MCC Planners,

We are established Abergavenny residents. We walk into town (about 12-15 minutes) at least once a week, to shop and to use other facilities like library, post office and/or hospitality providers. We think highly of Abergavenny and are delighted to call it home.

We welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Abergavenny 'Placemaking Plan' consultation being carried out by Monmouthshire County Council. We support the overall approach taken by Abergavenny Civic Society, and in particular their call to work towards a final plan which has greater focus on manageable works and tasks, and correspondingly less on expensive 'public realm' projects. The overall objective should be to celebrate Abergavenny for its history, its tradition and its vibrant and pedestrian-oriented market town centre, while upgrading the struggling Cross Street/Bus Station end of town, also improving town centre access from Fairfield, Castle Street and Byfield car parks.

In particular, we are in favour of:

- Improving the town entrance route from the Bus Station car park, to include safe/covered cycle storage at this end of town.
- Repurposing the old Post Office Building for toilets, cycle storage and Shopmobility, rather than an expensive new building on the far side of Castle Street.
- Avoiding over-use of new way-finding signs, instead providing a few good pedestrian guide map signs and good public seating in pedestrian areas. Allow easy public movement (pedestrians, pushchairs, mobility scooters etc.) and avoid cluttering with too many planters etc. Good examples are at the 'Angel' corner and at the top of Cross Street at the Market Street turn.
- Slowing traffic on Tudor Street – a Zebra crossing at St. John's Square would probably be sufficient.
- Encouraging housing provision in the town centre e.g. including housing as part of the Richards site regeneration in Frogmore Street.
- Providing good public toilets towards the western end of town e.g. on the Whitehorse Lane site, to include safe, covered cycle storage.
- Encouraging the provision of commercial units which are small and well-maintained.

However, we are against:

- Spending on a Beili Lane upgrade – as a pedestrian way into town, this bypasses the Cross Street shops which need all the help they can get, and emerges onto Monk Street (the main A40) at a point with narrow pavements and unsafe, difficult crossing to reach the main shopping streets.
- Expensive new-builds like a proposed new 'Hub' building on Castle Street
- Expanses of new paving where existing provision is fit for purpose and avoids cluttering – an example would be Cross Street from the Angel hotel up to High Street.

- An expensive upgrade of Gabb Square, when improved Seating provision with modest, low maintenance planting would suffice and improve town access via Lewis's Lane.

Footnotes:

- Any aim 'to transform the A40 through the town from a road to a street' must redirect A40 trunk traffic around the town, from the Hardwick roundabout to Llanfoist and onto the A4143 link road. It is hard to see this happening without major improvement to Llanfoist Bridge, unpalatable though this may be.
- This re-routing of through traffic would allow a much clearer focus on visiting the town rather than just passing through, enhancing the impact of its many fine shops, facilities and other offerings for visitors and residents alike.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input and our views. We believe that much can be achieved at a manageable cost. The A40 question is fundamental and clearly requires support and cooperation from Welsh Government and maybe, UK Government too. We look forward to keeping up to date with progress on Plan finalisation and implementation as it progresses, via contact with both elected representatives and MCC staff. We wish you success – may the town and the county continue to be the delightful places we know and love!

Your sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

7. Appendix B: All survey open text feedback

Copied verbatim

Gateways

gateways into the town from all routes do look unloved and very tired. Its does not get anyone excited of what is to come when visiting our beautiful town.

It would make the town look welcoming as you come from the Monmouth Road

Changes should keep the town's architecture and rural nature at the forefront. Trees and planting should be liberally used to soften hard landscaping

Some form of transport from the station apart from taxis is desirable

The A40 running through town makes the entrances difficult , busy and dangerous

Just keep the weeds down and the plants watered otherwise don't waste more money on the entrances

Road around Abergavenny are so bad they should not be called roads

Consideration needs to be made to local residents who need to travel around or through the centre to reach their homes or travel beyond the town. Local residents should not be disadvantaged in favour of attracting more visitors

Make sure there is disabled access that actually meets people's needs

I don't believe sacrificing parking along the proposed Sustrans route to Llanfoist is progress at all

The main issues are walking from the train station into town (along a busy road), traffic flow through the town on the A40 and access to the Linda Vista and Castle Street car parks

It is unfortunate that the approaches via both Monmouth & Brecon Road do not show the best side of town.

Must retain old world charm whilst maintaining adequate visitor facilities.

Enhancing pavements so that safe crossing places are demarcated with tactile paving (modern tactile paving can be sustainable, Smart town adapted, quick to install and replaceable cheaply. Move the tactile paving/crossing places back from junctions to allow motorists time to see pedestrians. Application of raised kerbs in places would allow blind and partially sighted residents to safely navigate across roads. Where curved paving junctions have tactile paving and dropped kerbs there is no 'touch' guidance to line up square to cross safely. Quick fix/quick win/relatively inexpensive.

"Work in town centres is 'redevelopment', not 'regeneration' and the two should not be confused. Villages also need regeneration, especially if they have suffered loss of employment focus. Not just physical infrastructure but also 'social regeneration' is also essential and takes time.

Very much agree with enhancing paths, but please don't forget cycleways.

"All the proposals will make Abergavenny an even better place to live and visit.

Exciting times ahead if proposals can go ahead."

Until there is a bus service in to the town centre, the town remains in the dark ages. Also need to attract new business and shops to the town centre, there's too many charity shops and not enough retail premises, a fast food outlet may attract more people along with other food retailers and a supermarket to compete with Waitrose and Morrison might be advantageous

We need a pedestrian crossing near the roundabout at Llanfoist Bridge. It would also have been better to build a new modern bridge next to the Llanfoist bridge (where the railway bridge used to be) for road transport and then use the old bridge only for walkers and encompass it within the meadows and therefore making it a historical asset to this town.

"I agree with better signage and the need for improving the existing pavements. Landscaping is ok if done in the correct way.

Not with the use of public artwork(it might increase graffiti).

Remove the huts on cross street they are an eyesore

Definitely should welcome visitors and guide them properly to the facilities they need.

It seems so obvious and has been discussed for years so perhaps nothing has been done because its more expensive in time and money than we realise (and so not a priority in these penny pinching times).

"Clearer road markings and signs much needed. Especially around Aldi area where there is a mix of vehicles, buses, motorbikes, cars and heavy loaded lorry's.

Also clearer marking needed by the Angel hotel/bakery on the corner. This is a dangerous crossing for pedestrians as they try and cross on the corner building up towards the town market."

Listen to everybody's views

Better traffic control and crossings at Tudor Road/ Merthyr Road junction, more safe space for pedestrians on the Brecon Road corner.

Would be good to Pedestrianise as much as possible. And force permit parking for central locations to ensure only local residents have access to street parking.

Many people walk from the railway station towards town via the Mill St industrial estate. This needs more trees. There were many trees here in the past but they have been felled. If they were replaced this would be a huge improvement.

Urgent need for footbridge across river into town from Llanfoist. I walk this daily and it is an accident waiting to happen.

For me abergavenny feels disjointed and lacks spark. It desperately needs connection. It could be a much more vibrant place but alas I just don't know if there's enough interest and enough wealth here to show enough support and interest in creating a more vibrant town. It just feels a little dull and I need more vibrancy... connection.. creativity and a Green approach. A example of where Abergavenny went wrong was the awful tacky Christmas decorations that were bought

in. Invest in tasteful decorations and real trees bought to life by local children making decorations with artists and makers. Make Abergavenny joyous. The main issue is people just don't have the money whether it's as a shopper or a business owner. There are too many empty shops and failing businesses due to high rents. I have to shop elsewhere for gifts and clothing. Places like Bristol Frome Leominster Hereford. We need to allow independent businesses to thrive

It's good that there's proactive work to continually improve Abergavenny

Definitely agree- have noticed how challenging pavements can be since navigating with a pram. There are some bits of pavement which are impossible/dangerous as you head past the Londis down towards Bailey Park. It must be so difficult for wheelchair users. This is much more important for residents than visitors so probably doesn't get much attention, but the needs of residents should probably be prioritised. Enough attention on cars! Make it harder to get around by car to disincentivise!

Need to improve flow of traffic and take large vehicles away for town centre

More trees, more signage that indicates entering into Abergavenny, more green, more mobile arts monuments

Wasting money on a vanity project.

"Some intrusive illuminated store signage has been appearing

Old Llanfoist bridge would be best closed to vehicular traffic as in Monmouth. A new flyover entry on the line of the old rail bridge would serve better.

The idea of a meadows footbridge is a risky idea on a flood plain"

Sort out the small things before spending money on pointless day dreams

Walking from Brecon Road to town requires crossing of Pen Y Pound. You cannot see what is coming around the corner. Traffic lights on Pen Y Pound are needed.

Get the footbridge across the river in as soon as possible

"Safe pedestrian access

Presenting a pedestrian ""quick wins"" powerpoint to show areas of tactile crossing improvements."

"At present Tudor Street shared space is very dangerous and needs to be clearly signed and demarcated.

actually building the proposed footbridge over the Usk would be a good place to start.

Following construction of Llanfoist active travel bridge remove footways on Llanfoist Bridge allowing A40 through town centre to be de-trunked. This will allow existing A40 route to be redesigned to reallocate road space to pedestrians and cyclists.

As well as pavements the plan should also include cycle lanes that are an intelligently-designed and fully integral part of a town-wide cycle network.

It would be good to also provide a zebra crossing (just the floor markings no need for traffic lights as the sound will be disturbing for neighbours) on Monmouth Road to allow people to safely cross at the level of the Meadows entrance. People with dogs, elderly or myself with my kid have a difficult time crossing. A strong signage that the speed is 20mph would also be very helpful as many ignore the speed entering into town making the roads very unsafe and polluted.

the routes in are clear , there is already plenty of signage, pavements are fine - I'm not sure what the enhancements seek to add

The area at Frogmore Street and Abergavenny Baptist has evolved the way it is with all that metal barriers. Those barriers by there and also by Fairfield Car Park are forever being covered with advertising banners which actually don't enhance the town and prevent you seeing through the barriers to what's behind including traffic. The banners also left so long they become tatty. Stopping all these I think would be good.

"Appreciate there are many gateways into the town, but there is a missed opportunity at the Railway Station 'forecourt' to give a positive sense of arrival, 'welcome' and provide some useful, basic information (taxi numbers, where is the town centre?) through wayfinding and providing a pleasant 'dwell space'. The first bus stop - station road/A40 junction - is a major hopping off point for people going to Brecon. No mention of the bridge/active travel proposals at the end or Bridge pub end across the Meadows.

'Landscaping' is to be encouraged, investment in decent, properly planted trees would make a massive impact, contribute to carbon capture and provide shade as climate change ensues. Underground services notwithstanding."

Need safer walking route from Llanfoist. Bridge isn't safe for buggies or mobility scooters

It needs to be clear, on access points and where areas are pedestrianised and not for motor vehicles.

Some details please

Community and commissioned art works

"Any public artwork should be more thought through, pertinent to the town, and more refined than the splodge images on the murals in Bailey Park.

A fundamental to any work on town centre roads should be to make pedestrianisation mean true pedestrianisation. Stop cyclists riding through these existing sections. The present allowing of this is dangerous and off-putting to visitors and local people. Signs to enforce this are needed."

Crossing over the Llanfoist bridge with its narrow pavement only on one side and trying to cross the road from castle meadows to access route past cemetery to Llanfoist garden centre is very difficult esp. with children and a dog.

Focus should be on bringing people into the town and ensuring no empty shopping units

Better signage to Abergavenny museum and castle, Linda vista gardens and castle meadows. The road along Tudor street, past Linda vista gardens needs to be improved!

There needs to be one or more pedestrian crossing(s) on Brecon Road. Crossing the A40 on your way into town is horrible and dangerous

Please not just more plants but good clean roads and signs, make the road look tidy and not so scruffy

All fine but not a priority for me

These should prioritise pedestrian and green travel routes as opposed to cars, and should address the now inappropriate trunk road that directs haulage through the town centre. Unsure that public artwork ultimately resolves fundamental issues with access and aesthetics

"Llanfoist bridge is very narrow and not safe for pedestrians

Footbridge is needed between castle meadows and Llanfoist as the old bridge is unsafe for use by pedestrians

We don't want "signage pollution" that is so common in other cities. Equally care needs to be taken with sculptures - we need greenery not plastic signs or sculptures that will corrode and decay over time

Information signs of how many car parks there are and their capacity and when they are closed.

Llanfoist bridge especially needs enhanced pavements

We need safer pedestrian crossings, with level access and dropped curbs. Pedestrians should be able to cross all streets in one go, not be forced to wait on islands in the middle of roads.

Because I know the town so well it is hard to judge whether or not the gateways need enhancing more than some other improvements. When funds are so limited I would favour improved signage to places like The Melville Centre, Linda Vista gardens & Plas Gunter ahead of expensive road surface improvements.

The anti motorist lobby at work. There is little public transport from outlying villages so the need to drive is essential. These villages support the town as much as the residents.

The Vision and goals have too much emphasis or seem to be heavily biased towards improving the experience of the first-time or once-only visitor. They are a very minor sector of the users of the town.

We definitely need the new foot and cycle bridge over the Usk, but not the plans for changing Castle Meadows

See ATT comments

I don't know what several of the proposed objectives mean, and the focus on gateways is too much for the benefit of visitors rather than residents. Better to focus on community and quality of experience for those who live here.

Sort out the potholes

Filling pot holes in, improving the roads coming in and out of Abergavenny

Unless the A40 Trunk Road and the access over the bridge are changed, the ability to modify is minimal

Please consider the walk from Fairfield car park along white horse lane. It's an awful first impression, and many visitors use that carpark.

Pedestrianise the whole of town!

Invite more welsh companies to trade in are town we have been took over by barbershops cafes and charity shops i don't even recognise town anymore it's like living in a foreign country every other shop is cash only just not a town i won't to shop in we all feel very let down with the council that for doing this to are beautiful town.

Be bold & add character.

Hardwick roundabout is treacherous!!!!!!!!!! Many junctions create bottle necks and opposite Tesco is the worst...

Zebra crossing on Monmouth road to access castle meadows from fosterville crescent.

No block paving for roads. They don't last and become unsightly when they break up. Expensive landscaping that is not maintained is a waste of money.

Yes, abergavenny needs clearer gateways into Abergavenny. Also need to remove unnessesary street furniture, and engage with opportunities to highlight abergavenny's historic townscape. An opportunity to use colour to enhance the townscape which can also create new landmarks. Such as rainbow Road in Reykjavik, Iceland. Improved planting and soft landscaping schemes will enhance the townscape and help boost biodiversity-such as pollinator corridors.

Ensure that it is not at the detriment of those travelling into town by car - many locals live in rural areas and have no option other than drive into town - if too much priority is given to cyclists and pedestrians then that would deter those that drive into town (who are in the majority) and would be detrimental to the town in the longer term

Area needs to be more inviting- suggest creating a plaza on the site of the recent fire

Make street unvversally accessible + plant trees

Abergavenny is a medieval market town not a 21st century city and is losing its appeal due to modernisation and with this it's losing its history

Definitely need the Llanfoist bridge for increased safety and renovation of the path on/around the meadows so better disabled and pram access.

Yes. Please finish spending the active travel budget on Abergavenny and bring some active travel intervention to Chepstow. There is no active travel network here, minimal specific provisions for people on foot or on bikes. What do we have to do to get some attention for citizens down here?

It is not necessary - the roads work, the paths work. The money needs to be spent on the young people - your stats show that Abergavenny has an aging population. Work needs to be made to encourage young people to stay here.

Safer more accessible cycling routes / lanes needed

Encourage MCC to install pedestrian/cycle bridge across Usk between castle meadows and llanfoist. Planned but delayed - vital to improve links into town.

Parts of Monmouth Road are very dangerous, narrow pavements, overgrown hedges, speeds limit broken, HGVs

Reduce traffic through centre

Road surfaces, better signage essential

Is is clear that the town prioritises the car. The entrances are dominated by car infrastructure and the — somewhat-- peaceful town centre is a island surrounded by busy roads that prioritises cars over pedestrians. The entrance from the parking at Bailey park should be made into. ashared space similar to the Market st/ Lion St junction.

I find the current gateways fine. I'm much more influenced by the practicalities once you're in town.

Agree with above but don't spoil the character of an old market town

Money better spent on other things.

Very welcome, and a fundamental necessity to enhance our beautiful town, and future proof its attraction to a broader audience

Plant the roundabouts with nice bright flower beds not a load of weeds

They are only going to work if there is an alternative route for buses/other long vehicles to get from one side of town to the other

I believe frogmore street is okay the way it is as it is the perfect place to get a taxi. Other areas in Abergavenny need attention for example all the pot holes.

Llanfoist access walking and cycling into town is desperately needed

The proposals are not in plain English. Therefore I'm not exactly sure what the plans are and what you asking of me.

It's very hard for disabled people or people with mobility problems who depend on their car to park near shops, especially pedestrianised areas.

Building a pedestrian bridge over river at Llanfoist should be no 1 priority for safety and ease of access to town.

Agreed - but not ahead of the greater priorities of improving pedestrian and cyclist convenience and safety, and then maintaining / improving the quality / material of the road surface. A local community who spend public funds on superficial treatments ahead of fundamentals risks being considered frivolous and out-of-touch.

No

Really need to take care not to materially obstruct traffic flows at key times

Build in SUDS and potentially community growing

N/A

Signs updating

"The cross hatching is unusable at angel corner and there's no indication of vehicular right of way either onto monk or castle!

I can't quite believe that the opportunity has been lost to have the bus stop near Tesco to be off street! Visibility out of that road onto the corner will be as bad as ever when the new plants grow..."

Shop signage does detract from the town. Tesco metro is an example. The taxis and signage is out of keeping with the historic location. Many small retailers make much best judgements with their taxis and signage. Can shop signage be controlled more closely

No public artwork. Improve pavement surfaces.

I think more work should be focused between Aldi and the Angel. The buildings look run down and out of touch with the town centre. The same goes for Brecon Road near gateway cycles.

A pedestrian only bridge linking Llanfoist to Abergavenny is desperately needed.

"You make me laugh when you say improving the gateway to Abergavenny, the first thing you see is a Mc Donald's and a Costa Coffee drive through. You have already successfully ruined what should be a tranquil old style Market town which is what people used to come to visit. The town now boasts a Morrisons Supermarket slap bang in the middle which you cant park at to actually shop at because everyone parks there to go for coffee in the town.

Not sure you can fix what you have already broken starting to look like every other town in the UK "

Pedestrians and cyclists need better protection at Llanfoist Bridge/Tudor Street.

It's already been ruined by Monmouth council so making it better is a joke. Let's face it the gateway to wales is marked with a mc Donald

Town centre is disability friendly but pavements leading to town centre are not, pavements and curbs are very poor

Whilst all these gateways can be improved, they are not holding back the town from thriving or detracting to the extent that they are harming the town centre

All excellent proposals

Llanfoist bridge needs serious reconsideration. The pavement must tendon to give people child and maintain. Access during floods.

Spend the money on repairing the road surfaces which are awful and forget all of this plan - the town is fine, sort the obvious issues

The route from the station and driving into town past the Bus Station needs improving by making it prettier.

"get the pedestrian bridge from Llanfoist built ASAP

better signage on A40 when entering town from Crickhowell direction"

Being disabled the amount of cars that are parked on the path or front of drop kerbs is a right problem

I think it should be a priority to fix any road coming into Abergavenny that has potholes everywhere. Not one road coming into Abergavenny is free from them, and it should be fixed.

You should consult with a qualified access consultant preferably from the National Register of Access Consultant to make sure everything is correct from design to finish

Pedestrianise the whole town. Creating a loop road around. No big lorries permitted. Use the heads of the valley road. Should not be allowed to use the road from Abergavenny to Brecon at all.

The roads surrounding the town centre are an embarrassment to people visiting and the locals due to the potholes. The road on the way to park in Linda vista gardens is awful. However the road by esso has recently been sorted, this needs to be done for the whole town.

Inappropriate use of Council resource.

None

It is very hard to cycle into Abergavenny town centre from the west / Brecon road side as you hit lots of one way streets, a cycle lane up frogmore street into town would help this

"These proposals are anti motorists which this council already is. These enhanced spaces for pedestrians previously have been given over to cafe/restaurant businesses that now dominate pedestrianised areas that impede people with mobility issues & poor sight.

If people used pedestrian crossings already there they would not have problems crossing Hereford road into town. Road planning is a joke in Abergavenny you only have to look at the traffic management by Fairfield car park/morrisons, the cycle path in lion street running contra to traffic & is hardly ever used by cyclists as it goes nowhere."

Roads need to flow better. New bus stop for example stops flow of traffic. Improved layout of roundabouts needed. ie better lane signage at hardwick roundabout. More housing for local young people.

ensure that all pedestrian surfaces are non-slip

Proving it all fit with the character of the town

Repairing the terrible road surfaces would be a good place to start plus enforcing parking regulations.

For a rural area, you shouldn't make access by cars too difficult as most people travel into town using a car.

I would rather better walking and cycle routes into the town.

"The condition of the roads is very poor around Abergavenny, for cars and cyclists. Pavements and pedestrian areas can also be a bit of a minefield in places with uneven surfaces, broken slabs/paving/tarmac.

The shared spaces by St John's Square sound like a good idea but cars still assume priority, so could be looked at to give pedestrians priority and slow traffic.

Parking in some of the streets into town can cause chaos. Blue badge holders sometimes park in unsuitable places.

Road markings have faded in a lot of places.

What happened to the proposed new pathways through castle meadows and the bridge over the river, to save people having to walk on the very narrow pavement over the Llanfoist bridge?

It's a long walk from the train station to town and back, which makes it unsuitable for many people. There needs to be a bus / shuttle of some sort. "

What connections have been made with SWTRA to actually get them to buy into these proposals

Focus should be on pedestrian safety and street improvement at key junctions. E.g. Angel Corner and Cenotaph area, including Pen y Pound. This street has far too high a volume of traffic and no functioning speed reduction measures - and has Melville Centre and primary school along it. It is also a main route for pedestrians both walking into the town centre and up into the hills. Tree planting and landscaping/benches only required elsewhere along A40 and on any areas of council owned land, e.g. Lower Monk St verge. Replacement of street trees planted on earlier improvement works, e.g., Lion Street, that have failed is a first priority. Paving of streets elsewhere as gateways unnecessary and costly and inappropriate for Abergavenny. Tudor Street is fine, signage adequate, no need for an app as people use google maps if they need to.

No

I have never had any issues with the main routes in.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE LESS HEAVY LORRIES USING LLANFOIST BRIDGE A WEIGHT RESTRICTION WOULD HELP

Tudor Street is a dead end so loads of vehicles are trying to turn round near the PO square or Plas Elyrch elderly flats. Often loads of double yellow parking outside the Drs as well. Suggest utilising the top Tudor St/Linda Vista carpark thus: remove all parking bays, put in disabled parking only along one edge using the other edge for a turning facility, ie vehicles enter at current entrance point off Tudor St and exit onto Tudor St going towards Merthyr Rd via a new exit at the end where the ticket machine is.

Where the A40 passes through the centre of Abergavenny, pedestrians and cyclists need to be given clear priority over vehicular traffic.

There has been significant investment in the fabric of the town centre over a number of years which has improved the experience for visitors and residents such as pedestrianisation and upgrading of walkways etc and the brewery yard. However there is a distinct lack of ongoing maintenance of this infrastructure and access through these areas and the town centre in general is problematic during inclement weather.

Abergavenny is a beautiful town, it doesn't need extra artwork it has its own natural artwork with the mountains. Spend the money on better facilities for the people of Abergavenny for all ages. It has always been crying out for teenager activities.

"More signage on what Abergavenny has to offer.

Something like a touch screen interactive town map down the bus station and maybe by the kings arms.

You could search local businesses, for example if you were looking for a coffee shop you could select a tile called food and drink and find one you like once selected a map would pop up showing the direction to walk in."

Quite underwhelmed with the vision tbh. Improved signage is ok but more radical redesign is needed. Is the pedestrian bridge from Llanfoist to castle meadow still happening? The old bridge is a death trap waiting to happen for pedestrians/wheelchair users/cyclists.

"Llanfoist Bridge is not safe for pedestrians but until the new pedestrian bridge is built there is no other option. Even then access to the cemetery and a useful walking route on the Cambrian Way or to the canal is not easy due to the level of traffic. Against that the width of the bridge means that generally traffic is not moving too quickly. I cycle over the bridge occasionally and I do not feel it is unsafe as vehicles will not overtake but once you are on either side of the bridge the position changes particularly on either roundabout and due to the bad road condition.

In relation to Monmouth Road the pavements are quite narrow. For me it is probably the the quickest pedestrian access to the railway station and when it is dark probably the safest despite the width of the pavement."

Putting a hideous out of character footbridge in a flood plain is ridiculous and a waste of money.

Foot / cycle bridge from Llanfoist is definitely needed! The current road bridge is often not pleasant for pedestrians when heavy lorries are crossing. Should perhaps consider a weight limit for vehicles on the Llanfoist bridge?

Slow traffic on A40, in 6 months there were two vehicle incidents close to my home where vehicles mounted pavements. also noise pollution due to noisy types of traffic that drives too fast on this road

improvement of air quality on routes into town should be key priority. Dangerous levels of particulates along A40 and A465. Reduction in speed limit to 20 has helped but traffic needs slowing up more to help pedestrians get across road

This is need of repair from previous enhancement road has sunk causing all loose paving

I am concerned that any plastic to improve cycle access could be the detriment of pedestrians. Pavements which are allocated as "shared spaces" or bikes and pedestrians can become dangerous for pedestrians. Sadly, not all cyclists ride with care at a reasonable speed. What is going to be the policy with regard to electric bikes? Please consider cycle lanes rather than shared spaces.

Improvements to traffic circulation and on-street parking in all these areas would make a big difference to the look and feel of these "gateways".

I do not believe that Tudor street/ Monmouth road or Brecon road need improving - but Llanfoist bridge is too narrow and extremely dangerous for anyone who wants to walk in or out of town from the llanfoist area.

A coherent landscaping plan is certainly needed with a lot more straightforward signage for visitors. As a business owner on Monk St opposite St Marys Church I give directions daily to visitors as the way into town or the market isn't obvious.

On the arrival Waitrose roundabout I'd like to see pedestrian safety as a higher priority ie improved crossings

Signage and safe walkways and cycle ways are key

Don't over complicate them, leave detail for signs in the town itself.

the roads themselves need improvement

"The long-proposed pedestrian and cycle bridge across the River Usk needs to be built!

The access road to the main car park below Tudor St needs to be accompanied by a safe pedestrian path (linking the Tudor St/Baker St junction to the entrance to Linda Vista Gardens)"

I would stress importance of a) bus shuttle to station b) pedestrian cycle bridge at Llanfoist

I would like more to be done to the entrance to Monmouth rd I feel the large gate house is in poor condition. I also think swan meadows is forgotten about and needs a better park and area for families. I live 5 minutes from swan meadows and have to take my grandkids in car to a decent park and play area . Also the building on end of market street dangerous and an eyesore

"The author is an experienced regeneration officer who has been involved in some of the most successful regeneration schemes of the past few years. Most of these proposals are a complete waste of money.

Unlike Monmouth, where the councils previous schemes have created economic havoc and wreaked the local economy, Abergavenny is currently extremely prosperous and resisting the downward spiral of most towns. Consequently any changes need to be very light touch . "

Better mainstream shops!! Less charity / barbers

Doesn't need to be fixed - this will completely change Abergavenny which is fine as it is. Do not fix something that ain't broken.

"Anything that prolongs a journey across town further I will object too. Town is hard enough and frustrating enough to travel around, made more so with 20mph limits. Traffic lights are out of sequence and getting across them at times can take 20 minutes. Whilst I agree with some proposals, I do not agree with such proposals regarding the cycle paths and changes to castle meadows.

Whilst I agree with some modernisation, the history and character of the town must also be preserved. "

We need to ensure that we do not strip the town's identity and lose its charm and original features

A new bus stop was installed on the A40 near Tesco's a couple of years ago. At the same time the long-established bus stop on the other side of the A40, just after Pen-y-Pound, was removed. In other words, the changes were great for people wanting to get on the bus but to the detriment of those who want to get off it! At present the nearest bus stop to the town centre for passengers coming from the west or south is Chapel Road, by the former Y Cantref pub. It is a long walk to Frogmore Street from this stop and requires crossing awkward junctions like Merthyr Road or Pen-y-Pound and pavements are often narrow and in poor repair. Bus passengers are still confused by this change (the non-existent Tesco stop is still listed on timetables and on-board information displays). I feel this needs addressing

The only change needed is to make Llanfoist bridge safer to cross. The gateways are fine as they are.

Public transport improvement would open up the town. Buses stop very early, too early to enjoy an evening meal in the town or to attend theatre,

"The footpath along Monmouth Road is in a shocking state with trip hazards. The road surface on many of the side streets needs urgent improvement. The footpath from the station to the town centre do not give a good impression to visitors.

Should put pressure on highways to improve footpaths here and fix all of the potholes on the A40. Cycling on the a40 is treacherous."

We agree a mix of all of these features will help to improve and enhance the main routes and gateways.

Proposals need to be much more radical and innovative. Proposals presented seem superficial

Make sure the art is truly local and grassroots. Consider holding a town-wide competition, engaging local schools, arts organisations and independent artists rather than going straight to commercial contractors. Signage and landscaping could be included in the competition as well. Fundamentally, involve everyone in the design process.

Bus Station

Would be nice to see trees & plants & make it easier for disabled to get into town

Signage

Could make it more attractive for visitors

Don't waste the money on this the bus station looks fine and there are two pedestrian crossings supporting Fairfield car park already

Most visitors from outside Abergavenny arrive at the bus station or the bus station car park At present this is an unpleasant experience. There is little greenery and what is there is poorly maintained The access paths through the carpark are particularly poor especially for older or disabled people using walkers or mobility scooters. There is no way to traverse the bus station area towards the controlled crossing over the A40 in a safe manner without wading on the

tarmac in front of the buses The path next to swanmeadows park does not even sport a ramp to allow mobility aids to mount the pavement

Signage is a quick win here. Improving the walkway from the bus station car park to the centre via belli priory could be massively improved

The pedestrian flow through the Tithe Barn walled area needs looking at. People enter the church apron look left or right, then head to The Angel, presumably because its a landmark, using this to then check if they are in Town

The route past the Tithe Barn and crossing the A40 needs to be improved and better sign posted
Mill Street is a worse eyesore!

Makes everything more inviting for visitors and residents.

Make use of the lane behind the shops and the tithe barn. Plant large trees that can't be snapped and if they do, please replace them.

"There is already flower beds down the bus station. if anything the toilets need improving and the building next to it.

The pathways from the bus station to town centre up Cross Street need updating. Perhaps a better crossing by Lower Castle Street/The Angel .

Between the Fairfield Car Park and the Town Centre we have three pedestrian crossings already why do we need more?"

Bus station and Fairfield carpark are functional but need softening.

When the last improvements to the town centre took place we argued strongly for a strong link from Bailey Park to Market Street via the Morrisons site. Though MCC accepted this plan it stood by when Morrisons deliberately thwarted it.

"As above clearer signage would be ideal for pedestrians so they do not cross on the sharp corner by the angel bakery. Too many junctions/cars parked on the road and blind spots for cars and pedestrians.

Greenery and benches by the bus station would be ideal.

Also to add to this a development of swan meadow park would be good as it has the foundations to be a great green space. However hardly any benches in the park for picnic spots and neither a great play park for children."

It will just get damaged by youths & drunken idiots

Native, local species of plants please. Shady places to sit.

Certainly agree. Its a bit open. Could do with the car park hiding behind greenery.

As long as it's easy to maintain

Didn't read anything about Swan Meadows... this is such a sad little park and it could be amazing. It's a huge space and that park hasn't changed since I was a child. It's about 35 years old+. There is not nearly enough focus in the plans on young families. I understand the ageing population argument but think plans should consider the longer term (given that such a park hasn't changed in 35 years, maybe that's the time horizon to consider?!) Swan meadows could be a much more attractive space for visitors from the bus and train station, and as I said above, residents should come first.

Make it a more clean and pleasant looking area

More seating, water fountains, greenery especially fruit trees or trees, more bee friendly colourful flowers and shrubs

Wasting money again!

Too vague an idea to assess

Waste of money. They will be spoiled very quickly.

The wide pavement opposite St Mary's Church needs planters as does the section from the Angel to the pedestrian lights on the same road.

Morrisons is the best route but dropped kerbs required from Market Street to link with path to Morrisons.

Routes don't need to be just up main shopping streets - links to Tithe Barn

As a totally blind person safe and straightforward access is key to getting into the town. Currently there are issues and barriers crossing roads.

While improved greenery is always a benefit, I cannot see why improved linkages to town centre from bus station area would make a lot of difference. From personal experience, people arriving on day trips at the bus station, head straight to the nearest available cafes and then the market and other places. I doubt this behaviour would change, whatever the "linkages"

The kids park next to the bus station also needs improvement. Floods easily and seems to attract litter.

a bus station is a bus station. people go there to catch a bus, why would it be a focal point of the town, it is what it is, people don't go there for greenery, just to get a bus. perhaps a sign from the bus station to town, but people using the bus station usually know where they are going

Be brave and plant substantial, well defined trees, contributing to carbon capture, requiring minimal maintenance if planted correctly (underground utilities notwithstanding) providing shade and structure as the climate changes. There are also opportunities throughout the town not mentioned, to retrofit Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.

More trees, grass and plants

Tall colourful structures, lights and flags

Especially pertinent to bus station area. Bette signage for pedestrians, especially as Tourist Info no longer there.

There are parks and spaces that are needed to bring people into the town

Greenery and a mural would be great.

not a priority for me

Pedestrian and disability access linkages in and around the town centre need wholesale improvement

A better pedestrian access from lower castle street and monk street that corner is dangerous

Not sure this is an issue people can walk from car park into town without too much difficulty.

The bus station is a bit wi d swept and barren could do with some greenery to soften it

More shared spaces for those that need vehicle access and with a trafic free town centre.

The bus station always appears drab and miserable

Dropped curbs needed and level access. Benches needed.

Greenery could mean a few bushes. It requires something much more substantial. The quality of the experience of moving from Fairfield Car park through Whitehorse Lane to Frogmore Street also needs upgrading and improving instead of feeling like back-lands to a shopping centre and the pedestrian lights take far too long to let people cross. What is meant by a 'focal point' to the bus station area. Until one knows what is meant by that it is difficult to comment.

Could do with putting the Tourist Information centre back in the Bus Station. Good spot for most new arrivals and visitors to Abergavenny on foot from the Train Station, or by bus or car to stop and pick up information. Shame it was ever moved.

I support the comments from ATT.

Sounds nice but also low priority

Having more seating required

Benches, information, cleanliness as well as plants etc.

White horse lane toilets!

Money needs spending on road networks not on flowers and better shops and free parking rather than blocking up residents streets a discount for all activities taking place within abergavenny.

The children's playground by the bus station needs an overhaul, it is the saddest playground I've ever seen and there's so many family's who live nearby who would use it if it was improved

Only if greenery is maintained.

Soft landscaping schemes that are hardy and can withstand pollution. Remove superfluous barriers that prevent pedestrian flow as well as impact access for wheelchairs and mobility scooters. Impove quality of street furniture.

Comfortable protected seating

As much greenery as possible in the town centre

what will planting a tree achieve? Fairfield car park is right next to the town centre. A sign would help.

Especially the bus station area which is bland and not attractive.

Money should be better spent on road surfaces and signage.

The bus station is now so severely underserved I'm not sure investing in this area provides the best return on investment. for the number of visitors who use it,

There also needs to be MUCH better linkage to the railway station. It's a MAJOR problem that the station is out of town and there's no bus connection to it. It's a real drag to have to slog out to the station on foot. Also, if you suffer from limited mobility then you will have real difficulty in accessing the town.

"The bus station certainly needs tarding up, its quite an eye sore and quite tatty and not very welcoming.

Linkage to town may be useful.

"

Waste of tax payer money

More buses from surrounding areas

Though parking is okay, it isn't OAP friendly due to distance and lack of rest areas

I agree that more greenery is needed however the lack of places for teenagers lead to the vandalism of such things so it probably won't last very long.

Yes the more natural look the better

See above comment. The proposals seem to be aspirational and not specific.. So difficult to give an opinion.

Don't block anymore of the town from vehicles, this especially affects locals who want to pop somewhere quickly

Agreed - but not ahead of the greater priorities of improving pedestrian and cyclist convenience and safety, and then maintaining / improving the quality / material of the road surface. A local community who spend public funds on superficial treatments ahead of fundamentals risks being considered frivolous and out-of-touch.

No

More greenery and perhaps a mural to celebrate the towns heritage would be great.

"Again more greenery, SUDS to capture run off and stronger links to green routes along existing rivers

Look at Green Flag principles and safe access for women and girls too"

N/A

Better sign for hgv drivers

There is perfectly good access from the bus station and car park if you know the way. Put up a sign and improve the surface of the footpath.

Greenery should include things like apple trees to celebrate local apple heritage and other edible planting to make healthy choices more visible.

Problem is you should have put Morrison because that's where everyone parks

Greenery would improve but these are not ugly spaces that need to be hidden away. There's no guarantee the greenery will be properly managed and will not enhance the town in the long term

Very sound proposal

Would be lovely, just concerned about such things being damaged by mindless vandalism.

Road repairs more important

Brilliant idea and needs to be well maintained.

That area is pretty grim with the horrible concrete Fairfield car park and Morrisons and both get infested by undesirables after dark.

More greenery everywhere but also make sure that someone is picking up the litter. These tree pots throughout town are burdened with rubbish like cans and all sorts of rubbish. Why does no one clean them?

The little hall was knocked down at the front of Fairfield carpark and then left to become overgrown. What is the plan for this small parcel of land? Extra carparking?

Inappropriate use of Council resource.

Personally links are fine....

More green the better.

The public toilets need to be reopened on the way from the Fairfield car park to the Main Street

This is a dreary space

A small shuttle bus (mini-bus) service at small cost, linking the train station to the bus station would be helpful, maybe half hourly. Its not funny dragging luggage that distance if you're a stranger.

Introducing greenery would be welcomed. Isn't really a need for a focal point to the bus stop area as you have the church, town hall and castle walls in the area. You should want to create

interest in the street scene rather than adding another focal point. Fairfield car park is already well linked, it is next to the town centre

More greenery and trees is always good.

On a hot day, sitting in the bus shelters at the bus station is awful. There needs to be proper shaded/protected areas to wait.

No

I think these areas are fine, new landscaped improvements at bus station very good. Aldi should be made to replace trees it planted along road edge that have failed, with trees also at A40 edge of bus station. Signage adequate and route to priory good. Fairfield Car park has more potential for improvement, trees, consideration of reuse of unused buildings along edge. Shorter waiting time for pedestrians at crossing.

No

Why? Money better spent elsewhere.

Biodiversity enhancements would be most welcome.

Abergavenny has some nice green infrastructure on the periphery of the town centre itself such as Bailey Park, Linda Vista Gardens and Castle Meadows. However there is a lack of GI in the town centre itself and no linkages to these key sites. A few street trees at some sites and some planters need to be extended and thought about. Improvements to Swan Meadow would be beneficial as it is currently just amenity grassland and could greatly provide multiple benefits for biodiversity and people if enhanced.

I don't really understand what is meant by a focal point as a bus station inevitably is a very functional place.

"15 year plan : for Abergavenny to be applauded as a pedestrian and cycle friendly town

Not just eventful but HEALTHFUL

Good food, fresh air, exercise, a friendly and welcoming town...

So working towards making the streets feel safer -

Crossing the road at the Angel Bakery feels like you're dicing with death

Walking down Market Street feels uncomfortable - not sure why

I avoid walking past the Hen and Chicks / Wetherspoons when the drinkers are out... "

Especially agree with greening up these areas which are mostly concrete and bleak

There is no clear route for pedestrians at the bus station and car park. Approaching the bus station from spot, Mary's involves walking through the upper car park with no pavement.

The traffic on the A40 is the biggest problem but not presently one with a solution. De trunking of this road and better signage to increase use of the A465 and direct traffic away from the town centre might help.

The bus station has already been improved with a new layout and bus stops. Swan meadows is a stones throw away for greenery and the town centre is a 5 minute walk away! People have the option to walk directly in to town or past the priory!

Improve Gabbs square

Make much safer the crossing of Market Street and Lion Street"

Worried about cost of maintaining and risk of vandalism

Sadly they'll need to be 'protected' such as behind wired fences etc so vandals don't ruin them

Cherry trees for the spring blooms - lots of them.

Tic needs obvious signage from here

Better quality shops

Waste of money.

There are few taxis in Abergavenny currently and bus services are infrequent and stop early. Hopeless for tourists and residents alike.

"Can motorbikes or coaches or lorries have a separate parking area? Parking appears to be contentious.

Issues especially in and around train station with residents etc,

Is there any land available in the vicinity for Park and Ride?

Large coaches parked during some events.

Adequate access for emergency vehicles to station."

Could never understand why the TIC was moved from the position near the bus station. It is an ideal location for visitors.

Further consideration should be given to improve links between the railway station and bus station. The linkage between Fairfield Car Park and the rest of town needs to be far more accessible for those in mobility scooters, with bikes, or pushing wheelchairs and buggies.

Needs to be much more pedestrian friendly

The walk from the bus station to town hall has lovely buildings but empty shops take aways closed by day and some garish shop fronts detract from this. The development of Plas Gunter a good start.

Both need to be thoroughly redesigned. Proposals need to go further than simply adding signage and planting. The bus station and adjoining car park need to be rethought, as they could become a main route into town, up past the priory.

Tudor Street

the Royal Mail building is an absolute eyesore. It is awful that visitors having to look at this first thing when walking up to the town center. The example picture of how it could look looks fantastic. Very inviting and wanting to go further to explore the town.

Would be nice not to see a big empty building plus more toilets would be excellent

Careful consideration of design of new buildings for this or any other space is necessary. Any design should be truly sympathetic to existing landscape and architecture and not be modern design for the sake of it. The town does not need any more monstrosities like the Morrisons building (nothing against the supermarket, but the building is a travesty)

Not clear how you will slow down traffic and still keep car parks

Changing Places toilets would be a great incentive.

The walk from the car park down to Lower Castle Street isn't great. Pavements are narrow meaning disabled, elderly and young families struggle to walk up and down. This should be improved.

Just try to get the post office building facia improved the rest is fine

There needs to be a realistic review of the hub and its facilities. Will all the proposed facilities be used well enough to justify their cost of implementation & maintenance?

"St John's Square is an asset to the town.

People travel to enjoy the atmosphere and laid back feel. These people are generally older people who have spent money in the town beforehand "

A good idea but less of a priority than other changes

The 1950's planners really did ruin the town!

Tactile paving along Tudor Street (Surgery side) and tactile paving plus pedestrian traffic light installed, by proposed new changing places facility to guide pedestrians across to St John's Square.

These images are bland and lack character. They could be anywhere. Drawn up by a consultant in London and inappropriate. Should use natural stone for surfaces. Compacted materials do not weather and become worn broken.

The illustrations are very misleading, as they do not show any hills!

More people will visit especially better links and all the proposals above.

"I personally think castle street should be left well alone.

St John's square is perfectly fine as it is."

"Add more seating and tables in the square too.

Purchase the old Post Office and but something useful and attractive there."

The only improvements there should be the public toilets and to shopmobility. The links are already suitable why waste public money.

As the only Town Councillor who fought (but lost) the battle to keep all Abergavenny's public toilets open, I am astonished to see your proposals to open another one. The best improvement in this area would be the "Brown & Parnaby scheme proposed at least 30years ago!

Royal mail building its outdated the old post office is an eyesore

The square there has so much potential for more business & private investment. The royal mail building is unsightly and really could do with being moved. Could be good to have specific cycle parking. Really emphasise the towns links to outdoor activities.

convert the old post office building into a selection of small retail units with frontages onto the square

Yes to any pedestrianisation! Incorporate places for children to run and people to gather.

More trees please

Waste of money, no need

What is an improved setting for a building you do not own?

The sorting offices does not belong to MCC

Hopefully to complete redesign/reissue of old post office and BT building - ground floor activity.

"This area needs to be better signed with larger signs making it clear pedestrians have priority.

The proposals do NOT define this are clear enough. The area should be clearly painted another bright colour to emphasise this.

I am glad to see the changing places, new toilets and safe improved bike parking"

improved public toilets should be a priority. The setting for the Royal Mail building is already filled with trees and cafe tables and is well used in fine weather. The only improvement to the "setting" would be to remove the Royal Mail building.

i don't see the benefit of improving links between car parks and the town centre, its easy enough to get from them to the town. some people need public toilets so would benefit from improvements. The royal mail building could be utilised for something but it is a bit separate so offices might be the way forward. the royal mail building is just there, the outside seating and trees obscure it.

With coordinated quality materials, that respond to Abergavenny context and minimal street clutter. I would have sade the pavement from Aldi to the Ahgel needs to be upgraded before this area in terms of priorities.

Dead void area currently. Public toiilets needed badly also

Royal mail building is not well maintained and sad it's the first thing you see of our lovely town. Especially when kings arms / trading post have worked so hard in st Johns square

Improve St John's Square - exclude traffic except evening deliveries. No Blue Badge parking.

Use the royal mail building as a community creative space/venue

This would impact the visitors to the town. I agree that the public toilets need to be upgraded.

Absolutely, it's so important to improve accessibility for all. Public toilets currently are outdated.

that visual is horrible!

I agree with improving facilities and improving accessibility but I am very much against the proposed aesthetic. This looks generic and out of keeping with the traditional market town. Instead of covering the old Royal Mail building with wood panelling providing local artists the opportunity to paint murals across the existing building would bring greater character and be more in keeping with the tradition of the town.

Care needs to be taken not to destroy the character of the town with too many bollards and traffic features. Also grassed areas need to be careful as you get uncared for areas at Tesco bus station on Brecon road - always looks untidy with earth thrown onto pavements - just need to clean streets with jet washing - never done now

Bigger noticeable shared space signage.

I have no idea what the royal mail building is used for now. Shopmobility is great if you know the town, but not particularly visible for visitors.

Dropped curbs and level access needed.

Medium priority

Requires a lot more detailed design thought to make it really work for all users. Feels too much like a focus on surface treatments rather than a thorough investigation of the challenges.

Need to make St John's Square look welcoming. In the summer when everybody is sitting outside the pub and cafe, it feels almost continental

The Royal Mail building is depressing at the moment but simple and much less expensive/disruptive changes could revive the square. Eg a nice mural and a pop up shop, or using the space in the old post office for the provision proposed above (toilets etc). Don't waste money on cobblestones and paving!

Definitely need more toilets

Changing places facilities are essential. Around this area it is like a bollard city - all parking around the outside of the town makes it difficult for people like me who find walking very difficult. Build benches into plans

I agree with improvements but providing they are in keeping with the aesthetic of a small market town with hopes for an independent character and spirit, rather than the very generic gentrification look of exposed wood and metal paneling as seen in many "flat packed improvements" in other town centres

The side of the Angel hotel needs to be closed to vehicles just a junction blocking traffic flow.

I don't think that there is much that needs improving.

All public toilets should be modernised and kept clean with access for baby changing.

A crossing from Fairfield car park to the doctors surgery is needed for safety

People with disabled badges park without consideration creating dangerous blind spots

More public seating to add to the benches already here. Best place to sit and have a drink outside in town.

Its fine as it is, just needs maintaining. Loosing car parking by building a 'hub' is a waste and would be expensive. What extra cost and delay when the roman archaeology is found underneath ?

Improve wayfinding between the car parks and key facilities.

Signage

Anything that modernises the town centre, gives it a face lift

This is a good idea.

Royal Mail building is very 1960s, not at all in keeping with the town's architecture.

Old Post Office building blocks the Blorenge view, is totally dated and does not blend in at all. That space would be a wonderful asset to the town.

Reduce traffic

It's already the most pleasant entry. Although the modification does look nice.

"More Public toilets required throughout the town, there are very few; particularly towards Tesco end.

Post office building needs sorting it's an eye sore and ugly.

That square is a lovely area and would be nice to be developed further."

Waste of money

The Post Office building should be demolished. A total eyesore, and not sympathetic to the surrounding historic buildings.

I personally think that it is okay the way it is.

Absolutely and more nicer toilets are needed

Same as above

Royal Mail delivery office / parcels office building is a waste of a great location. It's inconvenient for most users who have to use pay car-parks / buses when wanting to send or collect a parcel. It would be better located to a less central (and likely cheaper for RM) location with a small adjacent free car-park and bus-stop, and the building / space used for a post office together with other retail stores that would add character and choice to the square.

"In all proposals include seating for rest, contemplation and conversation bearing in mind what is needed to ensure it is a welcoming space for women and girls

https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/6398afa2ae5518732f04f791/646342387a36a25062656b03_Safer%20Parks%20Executive%20Summary%20Final%20-%20Web.pdf"

N/A

Need a crossing from shopmobility to the royal mail building.

The Royal Mail building design in a generally Georgian square is ugly and detracts from the town. Can it be camouflaged better?

"Public toilets definitely improve.

Don't spend my money on the Royal Mail building.

Oh dear you really are destroying Abergavenny if that's the artist impression above, seriously you have it so wrong

"There is a lack of greenery and shade from trees throughout the whole high street - this would

Make it a much nicer and safer place!

Also not enough places to sit in the main high street drag "

Difficult to tell from image exactly where this is.

Make cycling clear, safe and visible.

Do something to mask the concrete brutality of the post office building

Another very sound proposal

Clean public toilets would be great. Don't forget to make the baby changing accessible by pram.

Castle St can be a rat run and traffic is too fast. Consider restricting through traffic during the day.

As long as you stop increasing the prices of tickets. Perhaps put focus into the free car park also that has flooding.

Disabled toilets are poor

Potholes need sorting desperately

Will the residential property really want the public toilets immediately in front of their house? Is there a potentially better location within the post office building, if it can accommodate it, its cleanliness may be better monitored if it's not a stand alone building.

We need a bigger post office

I'm confused about 'New Hub Building'. Where is it and what is it for? I couldn't make the consultation so am only going on the slides. The artist's impression looks very nice, but it also looks like car parking spaces are being removed for it in Castle Street?

Neither agree nor disagree with this 'tinkering'.

"Use existing facilities...put toilets back in lower town.

Abergavenny need keep what historic buildings left"

This area has a lot of potential

There is a general lack of public toilets in town due to many of them being closed.

This square was recently improved only to be handed over to pubs & restaurants for outdoor seating & in summer time becomes a nightmare for pedestrians trying to get into town with the footpaths congested, people with mobility & sight issues find this an issue bearing in mind this is by a GP surgery & people have to negotiate this area by the Kings pub to get prescriptions etc.

So long as it is in keeping somewhat with the aesthetics of Abergavenny.

as long as it is sympathetic to the area - no "white shoe box" like Morrisons please

This building is a total eyesore and very little use to business. The new PO is a disaster. Sorting office must stay though.

The current street scene works and is pedestrian friendly. In this area you will be changing things for the sake of it rather than making it a better lived experience.

Less cars and more space for pedestrians and cyclists.

"Having worked for Royal Mail, the Abergavenny delivery office is no longer fit for purpose as far as the business goes. It is too small to manage how much the business has expanded over the years, both with mail and vans and there are health and safety concerns. I dread to think what would happen if there was a fire in the building as it is so crammed with equipment and people. While that is obviously a Royal Mail issue, not an MCC issue, it would definitely support reasons for moving it to another place (there was talk of amalgamating with Usk at a new site in Raglan but that's unlikely to happen).

It's also an incredibly ugly building.

I mentioned previously about the shared space and how it should be pedestrians taking priority over cars. Cars often speed down there or park in inappropriate places, causing blind spots. "

"Surely a cheaper option for the post office would be to preserve its heritage and reglaze and sandblast the concrete elements

The cladding in the mock ups feels like it could be anywhere in Britain and I think it will date more quickly than making a statement of the brutalist existing building

Think if we had allowed the market hall to be pulled down in the 1960s"

Total waste of money. Charming as is, particularly the tiled information on the Roman fort. Little traffic. Post office building needs long term reuse not facelift. The idea of providing a hoist for disabled users in public toilet is ludicrous. Likewise showers/changing areas for cyclists. They

can use the toilets. If everything is repaved, key improvements like St Johns Square cease to be markers of special places.

No

MORE TREES/GREENERY WOULD HELP SOFTEN THE HARD LANDSCAPING.

"The previous improvements to the Square have been undermined by the profusion of picnic tables and other public house/cafe clutter.

The Royal Mail building has always been horrible so anything would be an improvement.

What is happening with the Royal Mail building? It's ugly and a complete waste of space. That whole area could be redeveloped if pressure that could be put on them to either use it or lose it, but I do think that Allowing the main town post office to be in rymans is ridiculous and incredibly inconvenient for most people, particularly disabled people - I don't think improved signage or an extra tree is going to help there!

Make free parking easier accessible not just having to do a massive hill

I agree that there needs to be an improved setting for the Royal Mail building. I don't understand the question about improved links between the two car parks mentioned as they are relatively close. If anything there should be an aim to reduce the amount of traffic on Castle Street to enhance the open space around Neville Street.

I don't see the need to block pave an existing road, maybe put a new surface on the road to continue the obvious use for motor vehicles etc. If it looks like a pedestrian area people will naturally use it as such thus creating a potential accident hazard for road users?

Could the Royal Mail building house some high-street clothes shops suitable for teenagers to middle aged people.

The current 'shared space' is completely ignored by drivers - this access needs to be more pedestrian-friendly. The limited access to Nevill St is also frequently ignored making the square less attractive than it could be.

Royal mail building is an atrocity demolish it

I work at royal mail i can't see them doing anything to this building

"I think the ideas all sound really good. However, as above, I am concerned that there will not be clearly designated areas for pedestrians. While many pedestrians will cope well, not everyone will. People with disabilities and those who are elderly and frail often feel very threatened by shared spaces.

I am visually impaired and a pedestrian. In places where bikes have started to ride on pavements (including with permission) it has become extremely difficult for people such as myself to move around safely. I would urge you to invite vulnerable people to give input during

the scheme. I would be happy to be part of such input. There are quite a lot of visually impaired people who live in Abergavenny because it feels safe for them. Please don't make the town less safe. For example, removing curbs can make crossing roads more dangerous for blind people as they may wander, by accident, into traffic. Guide dogs cannot cope in spaces designated as shared by pedestrians and cars and bike."

The Royal Mail building really needs a bulldozer but I don't suppose there's much chance of that!

"I agree that the public toilets need to be improved.

With regard to the Royal Mail building it depends what the plans are? It's not clear what is intended for the building!

The area opposite the Royal Mail building has already had investment with benches and trees! "

Make sure improvements incorporate the needs of blind people

Toilets for sure

It will need monitoring as the shared space is badly abused at present by pavement parking and speeding vehicles.

Would need to see the plans to fully understand what's being proposed

Public toilets definitely need attention

The proposed scheme is far too over engineered and would be a complete waste of money. The current layout works well. The disruptions caused by the works would far outweigh any eventual benefits of the scheme to the town overall.

agree but not if it looks like the image above. we need to keep the traditional building feel of an old market town and retain independent shops

This looks awful - absolutely terrible design which takes away the historic look of Abergavenny!

This design is not in keeping with the identity of the town and whilst I agree that it does need improving we need to be sympathetic in our approach

Definitely improving the public toilets. Don't see the point in linking car parks. Setting fine as it is.

Could not agree more, especially "changing places" provision.

The Royal Mail building needs improvement. It could be an ideal location for a delivery/parcel collection/drop off centre as it close to a car park. You could include a 5/10 min pull in area for cars.

Further attention should be given to improving the safety of the junction of the A40 and Castle Street, considering taking traffic away from entering at Lower Castle Street completely. Safely facilitating the deliveries that come into town throughout the day, whilst being mindful of the increase in pedestrian and wheeled use via active travel, will need careful consideration when planning out this space.

The entrance to the castle street car park needs to be brought to its west end so castle street traffic flow can be reduced.

The toilets are very off-putting. With so few public toilets it does not give a good impression. The empty Post Office building needs development. St Johns Square tables etc has already enhanced the area.

"The post office building has the potential to be a real asset to the town. The goods entrance and courtyard could be opened through to flannel street, and the ground floor could house restaurants and cafes that open out onto the courtyard. The telephone exchange could become housing, and the upper stories on the corner could become a library/museum/music venue. Let's be ambitious.

Castle street and it's carpark need to be re-thought. The space has so much potential for development. It could be a park, a row of mixed-use buildings, a viewpoint for the meadows and Blorenge. Even as a car park it could be better, with solar panels shading parking spaces and powering electric vehicle charging points, alongside planting for enhanced biodiversity (think Miyawaki micro-forests, rain gardens, mini wildflower meadows)."

Bailey Park

it needs "real" trees and a lot of them not just "painted on the wall of Morrisons" ones

That would be excellent

Waste of money already good enough

Traffic flow needs to improved, not slowed down by more lights/crossings

The current crossings are not lined up with the path past Morrisons or the park gates tempting people to cross in the wrong place

Simplify the traffic light system to one crossing point aligned with the town centre.

The pedestrian route does not follow a desire line across from Bailey Park to Morrisons. Would SWTRA allow the traffic lights to be repositioned on the A40? Similarly, at Lion Street there is no clear route to Market Street (*especially if a resident is blind/partially sighted/on a mobility scooter/ adult with buggy & small children. The Lion Street surface is indistinguishable from a path.

Not signage, perhaps a crossing point.

I agree, but please don't overwhelm the railings, park settings with signage. It needs to be there, but discreetly.

Since implementing 4 sets of traffic lights on this short main stretch of road, it is often at a standstill during peak times. Traffic flow definitely needs to be considered if adding further crossings.

I have seen many people struggling to cross roads etc.

We need a by pass or less traffic lights

I think it's fine as it is.

We definitely need a pedestrian crossing directly outside the park gates, over to Morrisons, as that is where most people from the park etc cross the road.

There are already crossings there. The signage does need improving

Bailey park is already accessible quite well.

Better signage, yes, but existing traffic light crossing perfectly usable even for mobility scooters/wheelchairs

The building of the supermarket has created a traffic nightmare for motorists and pedestrians alike. What was your proposed solution, if any?

The path is too narrow here for people with wheelchairs or pushchairs to wait to cross the road. If the path is blocked until they are able to cross meaning pedestrians wanting to walk by will end up meandering onto the road to get by.

Sometimes the lights don't work or cars just carry on when it switches to red

Cover the last 3m of the stream that is next to the traffic lights. This would make it easier to get from the car park to the Bailey park entrance and enhance this area.

No oversignage it's not a very large area

Very strongly agree. Have encountered a fair few random lost visitors trying to get to the town centre, who have followed the road around from the train station. The path to the right hand side of Morrisons is nice, allowing you to avoid uglier bits and sending you right into the pretty bit with bean and bread.

Should have kept the early plans when the cattle market was developed with the layout etc

No need

There seems to be plenty of controlled crossing already.

Too many signs and lights already.

We live top of Bailey Park and always go straight across Park Gates from Morrisons

This area is already slow due to 2 crossings close together and the poor timing of the Morrisons lights.

As well as pavements the plan should also include dedicated cycle lanes that are an intelligently-designed and fully integral part of a town-wide cycle network.

there are perfectly good crossings there at the moment - they work well. three sets of pedestrian crossing seem to be sufficient for the area.

There ww

I think this link already exists

The dogs on leads policy should be enforced as signed. At present many who ignore this create danger to others . Money for more signs and publicity to drive public consciousness that this behaviur (owners) is unacceptable.

At the moment pedestrians are forced to detour to cross - the crossing g should be where people naturally want to cross, ie straight to the park gates from the side of Morrisons.

I cross here every day and never have a problem

better crossings - for pedestrians and people cycling

This is a busy dangerous crossing again not in favour of too much street signage and fixtures and furniture less is more. Improvement can't be about more sinage as that's not necessary and a waste of money.

More pedestrian barriers, to stop pedestrians crossing the A40 by Morrisons in stead of using the dedicated crossings.

The current area is hideous and dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. Dropped curbs and level access needed.

Just one pedestrian crossing. Limited signage on the park railings

It is already in place. The crossing from Bailey park was always in the wrong place but as it is is fine.

Hust sort out the movement patters so that they are clearer. The railings in your photos are a left over from movement patterns before Morrisons arrived. What is really requires, as was submitted to the planning application on Morrisons, is a direct axial major pedestrian and cyclists connection from the bottom of Market Street through direct to Bailey Park. Morrisons skewered that alignment by making the path deliver people to their front door. Unfortunately also we were we left with the curious snaking path, (which was meant to go to the new library- never built) this just created a confusing set of movement patterns in this area. It's a mess.

In general roads need to be easier to cross for pedestrians. Including a bit further up at the petrol station, and at the junction of Lower Monk St and Monk St.

marginal

The bus stop at the side of Tesco is a nightmare who ever thought of putting it on a already busy road and blocking traffic needs there heads looking at.

Traffic is already too slow here. I've had to shop out of town because of it in the past. This is very safe for pedestrians. Enhance it for mobility issues if anything.

Yes better use of the green spaces in between bailey par, Morrisons and Town centre.

Safety crossing

should have been done when Morrisons was built

There are plenty of places to cross the road safely - what is need is a refresh on the green cross code for the public.

Crossing between Bailey Park and town is not pedestrian friendly. Signage to Park facilities needed.

Pedestrians have to wait too long to cross. They should come first!

Same as above: Is clear that the town prioritises the car. The entrances are dominated by car infrastructure and the — somewhat-- peaceful town centre is a island surrounded by busy roads that prioritises cars over pedestrians. The entrance from the parking at Bailey park should be made into. a shared space similar to the Market st/ Lion St junction.

"Would this cause more traffic congestion in an already busy area.

This traffic lights/entrance to Morrisons area had virtually cut the town in half for us = we don't go to bus station side of town from Brecon road if we can help it."

No changes needed

Yes it's a busy place to cross by there

Same as above

Need intelligent traffic light to ensure traffic can get in and out of Morrisons.. traffic often can't get out because traffic on main road is stopped with pedestrian lights or lights at Hereford road.

Agreed - but the key issue is that 1 of the 2 crossings should be relocated to be immediately opposite Bailey park entrance. I'd estimate that >75% of pedestrians wishing to cross from Morrisons to Bailey Park currently ignore the pedestrian crossing as it's poorly located. It's only a matter of time before a pedestrian get's hit while dodging 3 lines of traffic crossing from Morrisons to Bailey Park. The other pedestrian crossing location is fine.

This area isn't a priority as you can easily access Bailey park from the town centre with the traffic light system in place.

"See comments above.

Secure cycle parking"

No

Potentially another attack on car drivers.

Not sure this is vital but would help.

Yes these are a right pain needs a redesign

Already gridlocked and causes issues with people suddenly deciding to either turn into Morrisons or not.

If it's a choice between spending on improvements to actual provision in the park or the way it all looks, focus on provision and facilities first please

Fine as it is

A park warden needs to be reintroduced. Dog walkers let their dogs off despite signage everywhere. The park toilets need improving, it's a complete inconvenience for people with children visiting the park.

Any chance of knocking down the hideous monstrosity that is Morrisons? ;)

Inappropriate use of Council resource.

Since morrisons this area is problematic

I think there are too many crossings in that stretch that causes a lot of congestion on busy days.

This needs a total redesign with too many pedestrian crossings in a short distance & then making the road by Argos 2 way adding more traffic into a busy set of junctions.

Already traffic lights on the road where people can cross. However decision making should have a stronger lean towards people living nearer by who may need it.

Signage on the Hereford Road from Mardy

The stretch of road is not straightforward. The bus shelter at Tesco should have a pull in - it hinders traffic.

Nightmare to cross anywhere to get to the park

The current layout works for all and keeps traffic flowing. The current balance works.

There must be better and more connected active travel routes without the dangerous car-favouring breaks

Commented on above re crossing. No additional crossing needed. Street trees along Morrisons side and Fairfield car park would enhance A 40.

No

Crossing the A40 at this point is complicated involving additional wait times at other entrances, Fairfield Carpark and Morrisons, it needs simplification for pedestrians.

Underwhelmed. I don't think you need this amount of discussion if some extra signage and a crossing could be implemented to improve safety. How about considering if there's any areas that the A40 could be diverted/improved to lessen its impact on the town centre.

I can't comment on the signage because you have not explained what sort of signage you are suggesting. I don't agree with a courtesy crossing - if there is a need to give pedestrian a crossing then it should be a crossing where pedestrians are given legal priority.

That photo sums up how horrid the crossing area is!

The traffic light situation at this location clogs the whole town centre on a regular basis, better timings between all junctions with traffic lights need to be investigated.

It looks bad enough already!

Yes however the traffic near this point is dreadful

Manage traffic to keep it slow so that active travel has greater priority

Stop people randomly crossing this road and use the pedestrian crossing

The traffic lights by Morrisons across to Bailey Park are very difficult to negotiate. As a person who is visually impaired, I avoid crossing the road there because it feels dangerous.

Unless something is done about the amount of traffic these proposals may well lead to greater build up of traffic and thus increased air pollution.

There are ample crossings in place.

The Bailey park traffic light pedestrian crossings at Morrisons and by Robert price building merchants should be more favourable to pedestrians. Some for the Tesco one . I advise the planners to go and use these a few times and see if the prolonged wait encourages you to walk

Very difficult for mobility scooters, buggies and bikes.

The pedestrian crossing lights seem efficient

There are already crossings in place and no need to waste more money on more crossings that will further slow down the movement of traffic through the town

The current arrangement works perfectly fine and does not require any further improvement of any type.

It is extremely clear where the crossings are for all who are using them coming from town/ Morrisons as well as the park.

Do we need further crossings as there are already 3 sets of traffic lights enabling pedestrians to cross safely

They're are traffic light crossings which are sufficient

Modifying existing crossings would be the best option. More interruption to traffic flow would be unbearable.

Already a lot of crossings here, so adding in another may not help much with the heavy traffic already on this stretch. Improvement to signage and sight lines may be better alternatives.

Signs would be good but already crossings. More would cause traffic issues.

"The space needs to be thoroughly re-designed at an infrastructure level. Signage should not be a priority.

Improving connections between the park, Fairfield carpark and the path towards Bean and Bread would be good, perhaps by extending the corridor of planting over to the other side of the road with a raised mix-use crossing for walking/cycling, connecting to cycle paths from Bailey Park."

Train Station

paths are too narrow. It is very difficult to cross the street coming from castle meadows going to the train station as a pedestrian and vice versa.

That would be a good idea people with prams disabled with motor scooters & people coming of or going to the train if a bus would run to & from town

The existing pavements are no detriment to linking the station to the town centre. The only impediment is the distance which is more than some are willing/able to walk. Money would be better spent on an electric hopper service than digging up pavements

Most definitely other than taxis

Would encourage visitors to get to the town centre more easily

Wider Pavements and cycle lanes needed from station to town centre

At present it is very difficult to walk from the bus station to the railway station pulling a suitcase. The paths are rutted and narrow with very few ramps to allow easy navigation with a suitcase. It is not clear how to get from the station into town as the path goes through private workshop land

A bus service would be a real boost to visitors and also locals who want to travel by train, especially given the difficulty of finding taxis

"Consideration needs to be made to residents using mill Street and aldi

The junctions can already get congested when drivers are turning right. Any improvements should not make this worse "

Improve the signage..

An alternative walking route avoiding the main road would be ideal. Through the park to Mill Street or through Belmont Close

Bus link to station should include from Byfield lane to encourage its use with free parking.

Train station parking needs to be improved as a priority.

Add signage to indicate walking route to Town from Train Station and to Train Station from town. A hoppa style shuttle service would be amazing.

Not needed.

Better walking links definitely (as I am of an age tone self powered), and also provision for cyclists who may well use folding bikes...

However the priority should be increased parking for the station as it's extremely limited. A secure luggage storage facility could also be considered.

This would be fabulous. The hopp bus is a great idea. It's a much safer way to travel on from the train station to bus statio etc.

I personally think think we need to build a car park on the other side of of the A465 by the railway station, all paths to town are perfectly adequate and so are the crossings.

There are already sufficient links between the train station and town centre all that needs doing is better signage and tidy the paths up.

Connection between bus and train is very poor at present. Even the walking route from the train station into town through the car servicing business isn't ideal. A local bus link connecting with trains would be very good.

We have talked about this for decades. Simply highlighting it is not enough.

More clearer walking route signage.

I lived in Yate where there was a community bus for just £2 it would take you anywhere so no need to jump on different buses

A hoppa bus to and from the train station would be amazing!

Wider pavements along the A40. Hoppa bus would be great, especially for older residents and visitors.

Shame their isn't another more scenic route to the centre that could be promoted.

Give taxi firms more incentive to attend the station especially evening times. Publish taxi phone numbers at exit from station.

Motorbikes speeding along this stretch is dangerous, noisy and unpleasant. Crossings would help with this but any other speed calming measures would be great.

Perhaps better signage to indicate the way to town centre

I greatly welcome a community bus especially if run on green energy

"Hoppa bus is a good addition.

Enlarging pavements seems fraught with hitches."

Yes needed as parking at train station is poor and local buses would help with mobility issues and parking

One crossing is quite sufficient

Do not agree with wider pavements are necessary, nor a Hoppa Bus - too erratic and expensive. Better signage would be good,

Parking for commuters needs to be sorted - I have no suggestions for this - best of luck!

Yes please

"Wider pavements would make the road much slower and dangerous with the large amount of HGV vehicles through the town.

An improvement to the footpath to Holywell Road would keep pedestrians away from the road and a much nicer walk into town

A hopper bus is a huge waste of money ."

The current chaos at the station caused by the building of the footbridge will hopefully be finished soon. It is beyond comprehension that there is no public transport to connect the railway to the bus station (and vice versa of course).

A one way system should be introduced with traffic heading east up station road and exiting through Belmont road. This would require purchase of the Griffiths yard but is a more sustainable solution than a hopper bus. It would also remove traffic emerging at a blind junction onto Monmouth road. TfW may be in a position to assist.

why? is there a need ?

Lots of people look lost as to how to get from the station into Abergavenny.

Bike Hire / lockers/electric street car hire dock. Proper Taxi information may suffice if a Hopper Bus is not a financially viable solution.

Too far to easily walk so hopper bus is a great idea

Vehicles are still exceeding speed limits, footpaths need updating

Shuttle bus from station to town would be useful. Parking is always an issue at the train station

"Long needed.

As is a bus service from Nevill Hall hospital to the Grange then onto the Royal Gwent hospital and vice versa."

Signage for walking/cycling routes between bus station and rail station could be improved. Local hopper bus station would be brilliant esp. if linked with more car parking on edge of town.

Yes, it can be a dangerous stretch of road for pedestrians. Improvement of pedestrians would be ample.

Please can we have improved cycle access too? At the moment the safest way is via the back streets but there are potholes and poor lighting. It's also not the most direct way, which would be along the A40 into town with a cycle lane

Include more cycle paths on direct road routes between station, through town centre, through meadows and into west side of town

The station itself is good but a hopper bus between the station and bus station car park could help

Bus hopper for elderly but reliability and frequency would be critical - not sure we need more signage With 20mph do we need more crossings?!?

Hopper bus sounds good. However turning right out of Station Road is very difficult due to the high traffic usage of Monmouth Road.

Buses should be wheelchair accessible and affordable. Raised curbs needed at all stopping points.

pedestrian crossing at bottom of Station road and consider changing location of crossing at bus station. Hopper bus service makes sense

Pavements are fine as they are. A bus link to the station would sensible or better still more parking on the town side at the railways station would be useful

The Monmouth road, because it is heavily trafficed, is a really unpleasant walking experience. Those walking from the station should if possible be strongly directed to the footpath that leaves the station area to the west. That way properly and clearly sign posted also offers a magnificent view over the town from Hollywell Avenue. For cyclists off the train there will hopefully be a traffic lighted crossing at the end of Station road that will lead to a cycling path across the Meadows to the rest of the town and Llanfoist/ Govilon

Lovely idea, but not sure how you are going to widen the pavements on the Monmouth Road. You would have to take away part of the gardens of some residents.

Slowing the traffic down has made a positive difference already.

Walking along Monmouth Road can be unpleasant as a pedestrian. The pavement needs widening for sure or a better off road route to town

signage and benches

walking between the train station and town is dangerous especially at night

Free parking

Bus service dedicated for the train station would be ideal.

Not needed. Plenty of taxis and not far to walk

Make the path connecting Belmont close and station road more greener and accessible. I live near here and it is used as a cut through by the majority of train users walking to town. It often has graffiti and litter and feels unsafe at night.

Its already an arterial trunk road route. Narrower lanes will make it even more of a bottle neck.

Yes to a bus service, but is there is also an opportunity to explore electric bike hire train station to the town centre.

Signage, night lighting

Safer cycle route

Abergavenny is not big enough to warrant a hoppa. Again signage is needed.

Proposal of railings along the edge of pavement on Monmouth Road between Station Road and Belmont Road, where pavement is narrowere and over hung with hedges. Large vehicles drive close to edge.

Local bus would be very useful to link Plas Derwen/Ysbytty Fields areas.

Better lighting at night. Safer pedestrian crossing

New tap and go will bring more visitors and their journey into town needs to be as easy as possible.

A hoppa bus seems extreme and an unnessesary investment when improve the experieince of walking between. thetown and the trainstation would be a much better use of resrouces.

Absolutely! The current situation with the station outside town and with poor parking and no bus connection is a MAJOR weakness for the town.

That's a good idea! especially links to train station.

This is a priority. Given the investment in the railway station, there needs to be a return. A collaborative marketing strategy between Transport for Wales and Mon CC would generate day trippers who spend money.

A hopper bus from train station to town and surrounding areas would be good

Extend it further and connect to the hospital as well

Train station to bus station bus would be good for those limited with walking

No brainer

Railway Station a long walk, too far for old people like me.

There is almost no public transport between out lying villages and the town (my nearest bus stop is 2 miles away)

Rural areas need more buses

Better bus transport from railway station to bus station

We really lack public transport across the town and to local villages. The train provision is excellent . Would we ever consider electric trams?

Not many visitors arrive in Abergavenny by train. I don't know about working commuters.

A hopper bus yes great, but do you actually live locally because why would you need a crossing when walking from the train station to the town ?

Wider pavement better more parking on pavement s

Hoppa bus would be great. Improve pavements. Sign at bottom Belmont Rd to prevent people walking up to access the station and then having to walk all the way down again - often with heavy luggage.

The hopper bus is a lovely idea but you need to talk to the bus companies. A service like this has been looked at before and was unviable and difficult to manage and integrate with other services

Important to connect the railway station with the town

Not needed. Access is fine as it is.

Good idea. Taxis locally are not great service as not available usually.

parking at the train station is terrible and lots of people use the dangerous layby on the A465. There is plenty of railway land next to the station that could be used to increase parking and encourage train use.

Yes this need more resources to it especially for the old and disabled

Definitely should have a bus that can get you there as the station is a nightmare in itself to either park or get too

Don't forget access to the hospital

Bus station is too far away from main shopping area. Why don't all buses drop off by Tesco? That's why you built the bus stop?

Any hoppa bus would need to be wheelchair accessible. It should also run to service all trains throughout the whole day. On Event occasions, it's frequency should be increased eg Match Days in Cardiff, when there are larger numbers travelling.

I wouldn't use this

Quite like the idea, but has research already been done to establish who is coming in by train, and from where?

Fail to see the importance of a railway station in Abergavenny. Underutilised transport system and meaningless studies into same will never make this transport universally practical.

As long as it doesn't affect traffic flow

Hoppa bus good idea

There isn't enough parking in train station so I think a local hops would be a good thing

So once again the only way to widen paths would be to narrow roads, take a look at park crescent where this happened this is now effectively only a single carriageway because of parking & pavements wide enough in places to drive on. Come to the Mardy where you allowed further building & where pavements are barely wide enough for 1 person & where the pavement fronting willow court to Greystones has still not been provided. Pavements & crossings are adequate enough from the train station to town, who's going to pay for the hoppy bus & is there enough people coming into town by train I doubt it.

All public transport improvements are good.

The A40 pavement needs significant improvements in surface and width - partly narrowed by bulging residential hedges. Some areas are too narrow to pass others.

A hoppa bus service from the town centre to the station would be a big plus. They have a zipper service in Hereford.

Not sure wider pavements will work. Hoppa bus would be great but probably not feasible because of costs. Electric buses would be good too!

Wider pavements will just give more places to park. This town needs parking enforcement.

"We live in Bryn y Gwenin we have no bus service to town, and not even a pavement all the way from town to our village to walk or cycle into town. We are both over 60 and are eligible for bus passes but we cannot even catch a bus to town to enable us to go anywhere else with a bus pass like for example people can in Llanellen.. If we had mobility scooters as we advanced in age then having a pavement would at least allow access to town if a bus link to town for us was not an option .

The train station is a 10 minute walk for the town centre and is pedestrian friendly. I walk this route very often and there aren't many concerns. The Joppa bus would be a good idea for older residents or those less able.

Absolutely. As mentioned before it is a long walk, especially in bad weather, along a busy road.

Impossible to widen pavements. Hopppa bus unrealistic unless linked with train arrivals which are unreliable. Even if half hourly, which is unrealistic, most people will walk into town. Could be worth further consideration. Back pedestrian route into town could be signed, through Holywell area/ Lower Monk St.

No

"Improve lighting and visibility on the routes to make it safer for pertains to use. The route from the Station to Holywell area does not feel safe.

I think a bus service would be great between the train station and town, the walk is fine but if you have mobility issues or small children the road is so busy. I don't think making everything pedestrianised is the answer.

See my comments about pavements and access to the train station.

Definitely agree that a better route from the station into town is needed. Also to promote access to town from the station via Castle Meadows

Bus service is needed

The amount of hgv you can't widen the pavement

This would be wonderful! Please try to carry this out.

See comment at 11 regarding traffic circulation.

A local hoppa bus service would be advantageous, but the walk from the train station to town is fine.

A hoppa bus is an excellent idea, train station to town centre is quite a lengthy walk especially with shopping or baggage, but to short to justify a taxi.

Needed urgently.

The back cycle route is up a big hill. The a40 route has a narrow pavement, not great walking with your children along there as busy traffic.

Bus at key tines that are well advertised

Maybe use coloured paving at crossings to signify the direction as well as signs, and smart tech for directions.

This must be a priority: a coordinated rail/bus connection between the rail station and town centre

Signs yes but otherwise it is already a short simple walk into town. We need to stop people parking in local streets to travel on trains and provide FREE car park at the train station

better signage offering alternative pedestrian routes may help. There is no need for an expensive bus service. It would probably be cheaper to subsidise the local taxi service

with recent mobility issues following an operation transport into and around town definitely needs improving, I haven't been able to get in for 4 months and can't move around when I do.

"Strongly disagree- the pavements do not need to be changed at all. There are plenty of pedestrian crossings - near the bus station, by the dentist, opposite the angel bakery etc- This doesn't need to be changed.

Hopper bus service is good idea tho!"

Bus between train station and town could help entice more people to town

It would be helpful for the hoppa bus service to link beyond town centre to local villages, Llanfoist, Llanwenarth and Crickhowell to name a few.

"Improved links are very important.

Wider pavements along the A40 would be impossible. A hoppa bus service would be good and could mean dispensing with the awkward bus stop at the bottom of Station Road and also enable bus services to Brecon and Hereford to avoid the need to provide that link to the station?"

We agree and fully support this need for the town.

There needs to be a free shuttle bus every half an hour to coincide with the train timetable.

A lack of a transport link encourages more cars and already a lack of car parking at the station. The walk is difficult for elderly as fully and difficult if carrying luggage or parcels/shopping. Visitors often wonder where the town centre is.

Absolutely. As someone who used the train every day for two years of sixth-form, I can tell you that that walk is quite unpleasant. Even at 20, having lorries and cars barrelling past as you cling to narrow pavements just wears you down. It's not nice to think that that's many people's first impression of the town, coming for the food festival or on holiday. A regular community shuttle-bus would be fantastic.

Lower Cross Street

it looks very unloved at the moment. I feel for any new small independent business opening as everyone just "quickly walks or drives past" this area of the town.

Excellent idea make it more welcoming

A crossing nearer the old George and banning pavement parking (perhaps providing a few disabled bays instead) would be a more economical way of giving the same result

Yes it appears a more neglected part of the centre currently

Current pavements are too narrow and dangerous. Bollards needed next to Royal George pub

The whole area has been neglected for years and as a result it is not an attractive area for people to shop. The difficulty in navigating the heavy traffic on crosss street corner does not help

Narrow for traffic on the road already so if widening the paths that's going to impact on the roads /traffic

Enforce current parking restrictions

I live on Monk Street. It's parking issues are caused by the lack of availability of residential parking permits. MCC doesn't recognise the upper bus station car park as an option. Also a recent Air bnb encourages its guests to park for free on the pavement underneath the property.

This is key to many of the other proposals

Pavement parking is currently making access difficult to

Ban the cars parked on the pavements in Monk Street. Would SWTRA allow traffic lights to regulate traffic flow on the A40 through that junction. When temporary lights were installed to allow building works traffic flowed smoothly and pedestrians were safer too.

Do not widen pavements. Better landscaping with sensitivity.

It would help businesses in this area but parking for residents also needs to be considered.

Would make these streets very inviting for visitors and residents.

Again wider paths means less parking and to be fair the takeaways need parking outside of their establishments, the path to me are fine for the amount of foot fall.

The pedestrian crossing is in the wrong place

I agree with widening the paths in certain places and some landscaping where appropriate but not with pedestrianising all of it.

MCC has little or no say in this matter as the A4 is a trunk road controlled by Welsh Government

Cars parking here hinder pedestrians from being able to see clearly what traffic is coming. Also to bypass with prams can be difficult.

Cars on pavements are a real concern

Increase the pavement width around the Swan hotel building area

It's got to be sympathetic with the space available

Poor design and the large vehicle makes this a bottle neck and unsafe

More green. More parking controls as there are obstructive parking especially by disability badge holders which makes road unsafe at times. Needs more parking police patrolling and give warnings and tickets.

People should not be allowed to park on the pavement. They should purchase a yearly ticket/permit to park in the bus station/church end of the car park.

For the town in general, but particularly here, parking restrictions need to be observed or enforced.

Stop the pavement parking as a priority

Need to remove parking and enforce restrictions. Currently frequently pavement parking especially in evenings.

these areas are not very heavily used by pedestrians and the enhancements suggested will not change this.

Having all the cars parked on there was a nightmare with a wheelchair.

Please keep the old feel and look of the town. Old cobbled streets, quality stone walls and remember the heart of our town is rural. Please don't city-fy the areas with sheets of plastic, metal and end up making it look like an airport

Cycling should not be permitted as dangerous in pedestrian area.

Stop vehicles parking on the pavement - they make it difficult for people with prams and mobility problems.

This would impact on the people who live on this street for parking.

Out of town parking areas (on the edge) and link buses to reduce volume. Re-route lorries onto bypass.

need to improve cycle access to Upper Cross Street. remove pavement parking on Monk St.

This needs to be improved

This is real bottle neck and dangerous place to cross - not attractive place despite there being some nice shops and the church artist. Yes does need some thoughtful planning - current situ makes for an unattractive part of town - which is unfair as lovely shops

Stop the parking on pavements on Monk Street. Looks terrible and is dangerous.

Level access needed on all pedestrian streets. Removal of all steps and removal of confusing patterns.

Doubtful re widening pavements in most places. Real need is to provide a better route along Link road for HGV's to avoid them having to negotiate Angel corner. Some commercial frontages could do with enhancement.

They don't really tackle the serious challenges to pedestrians at the Angel Hotel/ George corner. I am unclear that the critical pavement width issues at that junction will be sorted adequately. Your two photos above show parking on Monk Street pavements without suggesting how parking for low rent local residents will be catered for and how illegal parking will be countered.

Nice idea but not sure how you are going to do it. Too many huge lorries go round the corner by the Angel Bakery.

Local businesses fronting onto these streets should lead the plans.

Parking is important - don't just ignore - but make it safe (for pedestrians) and usable

Sort out the parking and this wouldn't happen it's just the same in St Michaels Road cars abandoned so they can go shopping and not pay to park leaving residents very annoyed.

The pavement parking opposite St Mary's church is dreadful. There is a car park less than 50m away, but people are allowed to block the pavement and shop frontages. This must be illegal, but nothing is done.

Cars just need to park elsewhere with a business permit.

This is very important to do. This cross roads is difficult for both drivers and pedestrians

Again, trunk road. Pavement is already wide, just stop people parking on it.

Only if police are on board to properly manage the poor parking as in photograph above.

Make some business tidy their shops up. The takeaways and restaurants are disgraceful. Terrible sight coming into town

Parking on the pavement should not be allowed

Rules for business signage

As stated it is a historic market town and should be kept that way

pavement parking is ridiculous and needs to be stopped ASAP

Commercial Frontages need improving. Pavements do not need widening and we do not need any more trees/plants.

Chaotic, uncontrolled parking on pavements and double yellow lines.

cars need to be deprioritised in this area

"Less charity shops

Reduce shop rates to encourage more independent quality shops town should be more like Hay in Wye "

Shop frontage and pavements need improvement as town is starting to look tired in areas which would help greater diversity

Not if it's going to make the road too narrow

Again what exactly are you proposing?

How will traffic pass around side of George if less road room?

Widening of footpaths would make it safer for pedestrians however, it is already a narrow section of the A40 with large vehicles driving through there on a daily basis. There needs to be more work undertaken to prevent these large Lorries driving through and using the bypasses around the town instead.

Pedestrians and cyclists should be prioritised

Get the cars off the pavement s

Improvement of Mill Street industrial estate which is used as a main access route by many pedestrians. The trees on Mill Street need to be reinstated, it used to be lined with cherry trees until recently.

Wider pavements great, cars can park on there just like they do by St Marys church which unbelievable you show in your picture above, dropped curbs would be welcomed by these drivers.

Yes. Stop cars parking in these areas

Landscaping yes

As above with wider pavement more parking on pavement and what a great picture you selected to highlight it

Corner by the George Hotel is difficult to cross. Heavy traffic (especially HGV training lorries) should not use this route if it does not have business there.

Its is a key entrance to the town and look more shabby than other entrances

Makes a lot of sense

How will this be done without impacting on vehicular access. Town needs to be accessible to all not just pedestrians and cyclists.

This is a quiet area of town that I'm sure could be busier shops.

It should never be allowed the amount of time I have to cross back across the road my wheelchair won't get past

Stop allowing cars to park on pavements im in support of

Needs to be done in all locations

Building owners need to be encouraged to maintain their buildings and the streetscene needs to be more cohesive. Historic England did a scheme in Coventry which looked great. The signage and other things attached to the buildings high level are too busy. This is a conservation area and the shopfronts should reflect this. No point investing in the gateways into the town if the buildings are being left to decay by owners.

Proposed improvements are not worthwhile and will make insignificant impact if implemented.

Again as long as it doesn't affect traffic flow, this is a very busy congested road and needs width for the heavy traffic

Keep as is.....need be in keeping with St Mary's etc

There are a lot of people in the area and not enough pavement space. Definitely need some sort of crossing from the Angel bakery to the George. Parking on the pavements are an issue outside the flats which are shown in the photograph. It does not affect me but would for people with prams or in wheelchairs.

If people were sensible & used the pedestrian crossings provided there is no issue accessing town instead of trying to cross the Hereford road by the great George / bakery. This road is a main artery through the town that leads to the major car parks, the problem here is large Lorry's & buses obstructing this junction because they cannot see traffic around the corner. What idiot changed the give way at the top of angel pitch to favour traffic from the castle?

So long as I can get down it in my works van!

Not sure how the pavements can be widened. Better crossings outside the Angel Bakery. Cars do not give way to pedestrians. Yellow box doesnt work for anybody.

Feels scruffy and not very inviting to visitors.

The parking on double yellow lines on the pavement blocking light to the small shops has to stop.

So dangerous to cross anywhere near that junction

The pavements are fine as they are. Upgraded commercial frontages would be welcomed but this is at the discretion of the shop owner and the LPA already have powers to approve signs.

That parking should definitely not be allowed to happen and hard landscaping should be used to stop it, allowing for a loading bay for deliveries but not for parking. The pavement is often blocked to pans and wheelchairs and the pavement from the George corner are very narrow. The corner is also a natural place for people to try and cross, so a formal crossing should be put in.

Again please can strange brought in on this with whatever pressure our local MS can bring to the issue

As before, tree planting will improve street quality. Some street parking here, as now, essential.

No

On pavement parking of vehicles can be problematic for pedestrians, creation of defined parking bays for local residents would ensure adequate pavement wide for pedestrians.

Support to local business to enhance shop fronts and buildings would be beneficial, it would be a catalyst for enhancement to the fabric of the town centre. There is significant heritage in the town centre which need preserving and enhancing. Many historical features have previously been lost in the past and the heritage needs to be retained.

Cars do still need to be part of the plan...too many places have made areas pedestrianised and they have become sole less empty spaces with not enough people visiting on a regular basis to warrant such areas. The food festival is an annual event, don't change everything just for one event when it's particularly busy.

There needs to be some proper traffic enforcement on Lower Cross Street as vehicles are regularly parked on the double yellow lines or in the evening on the pavement. I appreciate some of this may be short term and related to the take-aways/restaurants but if it was thought appropriate to have double yellow lines then the restriction should be enforced.

The town needs to consider disabled/blind people

Parking, particularly pavement parking needs to be addressed throughout Abergavenny as it makes the town centre unattractive and makes pavement use difficult for people with mobility issues, prams etc.

esp landscaping and enhancing active travel

Once again lots of hgv travel though here

I live on the corner of Belli Priory. We all know that Angel corner is really dangerous! The pedestrian crossing which crosses Monk Street and leads to the market is really helpful. Without that, I could not cross the road. Any improvement to Angel corner would be wonderful. Monk Street is very dangerous approaching The Angel but so is Lower Castle Street where cars drive quite fast past the very narrow pavement. With such narrow streets, improvements will be hard. At least some of that traffic is those using it as a short cut to reach the bridge to Llanfoist. Tudor Street would be much quieter if cars were prevented from taking that route.

At the risk of becoming boring, traffic circulation! It's already a pinch point, particularly at the Angel corner.

Disagree that pavements need to be widened in these areas.

"This proposal directly addresses the issue I have with pavement parking outside my business on Monk St, this problem has been going on too long and has been dangerous for pedestrians, discriminatory for the disabled and detrimental to my business.

In areas with wide pavements it is essential that they have street furniture to prevent pavement parking. "

Parking here needs to go, it's a hazard

It's the second gateway to town so anything to signify a "welcome" to the town here will be nice.

Stop all parking on double yellow lines from Premier store up to traffic lights.

As a resident of Abergavenny town (princes street, grofield ward) general parking for residents in town is awful

I agree as long as this doesn't constitute a further pedestrian only access area during the day

The free flow of traffic along the A40 should be seen as the primary consideration and anything that restricts this will be detrimental to the town. These are always going to be secondary retail locations and their loss will not have a significant negative impact on the town. However, making the road less accessible will.

Strongly disagree- this is taking away the individuality and character of Abergavenny!

"Nobody bothers much with either so again, waste of money

Too many cars park on the pavement restricting access and mobility for those with scooters or pushchairs.

This links in to our response to Q13. Better traffic management of the A40 required.

This road section needs narrowing and making wiggly, which could allow for casual parking that does not block the pavement.

See previous comments

Absolutely. pavements could be much wider, and on-street parking could be moved elsewhere. This town is not short of parking. We need to think of ways to divert large lorries and cars travelling through towards Brecon away from the town centre, but the above proposals would be a good start.

Angel Corner

it is very difficult to try and cross the road by the bakery as no one these days has got 5 seconds to stop and let pedestrians pass. It should concentrate more on pedestrians rather than cars. Especially if we are trying to incorporate the lower part of the town coming from the bus station.

Would make it safer & welcoming

The proposed improvements are unclear. Corner definitely needs to be made safer for pedestrians. Prohibiting heavy vehicles from the route between 9.30-4.30 would help

Really unsure of safety turning into castle at

Not sure how feasible it is because of the A40

Need to add bollards on the corner next to Royal George Pub. Selection of road surface will have to be robust given the turning circle

"I suggest the traffic lights are upgraded to allow contra flow traffic control around Angela corner. It must be a "Smart " control system that can monitor the traffic flow in both directions to avoid traffic queueing behind the lights.

I would also restrict the size of Lorries and buses that can cross the town 20 ton plus Lorries should be diverted around the town"

Ensure that cars cannot cut the corner opposite that bakery where the pavement has been worn away

Consideration needs to be made on the suitability of pedestrian crossings so as to not cause more congestion on the A40 towards Cross Street

Lorries will end up using Llanfoist bridge

As long as proposals do not create more traffic congestion

The Pub on the corner should be removed to allow an extension of the junction

Above drawing is pie in the sky - lorries and buses need to turn the corner and as unpalatable as it is, there seems no countermeasures suggested??

Care to be taken not to slow the traffic enough to further encourage the lower monk street/Holywell Rd rat run.

Replace the tactile paving at Angel Corner (and opposite) . Preferably with metal studded pavers. Traffic cutting the corner has worn current ones away. BEST OF ALL de-trunk the A40 through town and place signage (quick win/cheap option in the scheme of things - I do appreciate SWTRA charge huge prices for inspection and signage) to redirect traffic along the Heads of the Valleys 465.

There are no safety issues on the corner. Minor improvements only, please.

Yes the Angel lift is narrow but it depends if it restricts vehicle access around the town further.

I think this would definitely make people more inclined to explore this area more. I have seen many people get to this corner and struggle to cross the road. Many turning back up the street, missing out Part of Cross St etc.

Traffic is already too slow around town and I think anything that's make it's slower is really going to impact on tourists, taxis etc

it is dangerous at the moment

That corner is a real hazard for vehicles and pedestrians.

A40 is a trunk road outside the control of MCC. Whilst "shared space" may work for pedestrian and cars, here we have articulated lorries struggling round the corner

As above

That turning is dangerous as cars that are going straight race up also when your crossing some cars change their mind at the last minute

Better traffic controls here.

The A40 is a busy road that large HGVs use to get to Brecon because of the weight limit on the river bridge. traffic light controlled crossings would be safer than the shared space type of pavement. HGVs and pedestrians should not be sharing space.

Poor design and the large vehicle makes this a bottle neck and unsafe Need to divert. Through traffic away

Waste of money, it's safe as it is

Need traffic lights. Bus transport/lorries have a great difficulty getting past each other. A danger to pedestrians when said transport has to reverse.

The Great George corner, repeatedly hit by large vehicles needs some thought.

Hopefully improve the sharp bend which is challenging for drivers and pedestrians

Crossing the road at The George is a nightmare for locals let alone visitors.

A form of pedestrian/bleeper crossing from empty Amanda Jane shop to Angel Hotel is essential. This is a dangerous corner.

More planters please

Idea of pedestrian priority across Angel pitch onto main street is an excellent idea

Definitely

"Another dangerous place for pedestrians at present.

Again this needs to be clearly demarcated and signed.

HGV vehicles should be discouraged from entering the town during the day

the most benefit would probably be achieved if enormous articulated trucks did not try to negotiate this corner

Needs to be reconsidered a part of redevelopment of site and possible role for developer contributions to scheme.

While I like the idea of raising the profile of pedestrians, this is a very busy junction and paving the road in same material as the pedestrian areas could 'grey the area' in a dangerous way?

crossing the road is tricky in this area so some form of pedestrian crossing would be useful.

There was a proposal to re-route the A40 to go over from Brecon road, over the bridge and then join the Heads of the Valleys road rather than going through the centre of town. The amount of times we'd seen

lorries getting stuck with the turn at this point as their sat nav brought them this way by following the A40 trunk road.

From 'Angel Corner' to the bus station on the A40 needs more attention urgently as the 'arrival street' before you get to this corner when arriving from this end of the town. If visitors get here from the other end of town, they venture no further as they think the town centre finishes here.

Please keep the old feel and look of the town. Old cobbled streets, quality stone walls and remember the heart of our town is rural. Please don't city-fy the areas with sheets of plastic, metal and end up making it look like an airport

Enforcement of pedestrian areas must be in place, as this currently creates a risk to pedestrians on Frogmore street and remove dangerous parking

This crossing is one of the most important pedestrian/vehicle conflict points. Suggest demolition of George Hotel to create mini roundabout, or bypass through Swan Meadows to Lower Monk Street or even on to Junction at Bailey Park (traffic lights)

Always difficult crossing the road there

Very narrow pavements.

Crossing on the corner is extremely dicey for pedestrians. It must be affecting businesses as it puts people off going down there as it's too difficult to cross sometimes

yes, this is currently a terrible pedestrian environment.

Currently extremely dangerous crossing. Lower Castle Street needs to be pedestrianised as it is not wide enough for safe shared use

I would urge the town to keep the 20 mph town wide as I've had cars go too fast here

More dedicated pedestrian areas would make the town safer and better to walk around along with improving accessibility

Corner is one of worst & dangerous places in Abergavenny - 90degree turn no places to cross - constant traffic and dreadful parking practices by some vans cars etc. poor pavements as well - shops need to refresh their shop fronts as well - tatty end of town when it could be excellent welcome

How??? Large lorries use this turning regularly as do most of the buses. I cannot see how increased pedestrianisation would help.

Priority should be given to pedestrians on this corner. Level access, dropped curbs needed.

see above

Why? The only viable option would be to divert hgv away from the A40 route through town.

Not convinced that raising the surface and altering surface patterning will alter this from being a vehicle dominated and thus dangerous spot for all other users of the street. Requires more radical solutions prefaced by WG agreeing to de-trunk the A40 which anyway permits only vehicular travel at 20mph. They are already known as 'streets' NOT roads, but having large numbers of HGV's negotiating this corner will never make for a safe space. No yellow cross lines shown in image for a no-entry 'junction box' unless way out clear.....

Crossing the road by The Angel Hotel could be made easier

Traffic is so slow here already that it's not particularly unsafe. I disagree with cobblestones. Not accessible, hard to maintain, pointless expenditure.

Agree here. Traffic on that bend can be dangerous

When travelling in a car able to see round the bend to on coming traffic.

the only way to make it better for pedestrians is to get them to use the western side pavement - again, whilst A40 brings large lorries through the town, the options are marginal re impact

The A40 is a key link road and is the only way for heavy goods vehicles to access Abergavenny without using the weight restricted bridge at llanfoist

Unless you stop lorries coming through town, I'm not sure how this junction will improve.

Yes for the elderly, young and mobility issues.

Especially with the cars trying to turn

Prevent car access to the high street at angel corner at all times.

Reduce the overbearing amount of street furniture and signage. Road needs to be tarmac as block paving wont withstand heavy traffic turning around the George Hotel.

Need to improve other routes, esp Lower Monk Street as this will be an alternative traffic route

Wider and better pavement's

The town already has a pedestrianised zone which already imposes difficulties for a lot of people with disability access to the main part of town for people with mobility problems

Certainly dangerous for pedestrians at present.

but the measures need to be very robust to with stand HGV's other wise there will be a constant need for repairs

It is a road, you need roads - a re-introduction of the green cross code is needed for the pedestrians.

Angel Corner is the worst bottleneck for pedestrians and vehicles. Number 1 priority.

Worst corners to cross. HGVs are very dangerous.

This corner is SO dangerous and everyone wants to cross there!!!

The proposals are probably futile given that this is located on a major east-west trunk road. The altered paving will make no difference to the traffic. Difficult to see anything that can be done given there really isn't a way to re-route much of that traffic (although possibly some could be persuaded to bypass the town using the A465 and Merthyr Road).

Crossing at Castle street corner is difficult.

Waste of money

"The Angel is such an iconic building nestled within the heart of the town

The surroundings need investment to attract and retain their discerning genre of customers. "

Also need to find a way to stop buses smashing into the window of the Angel Bakery

Thus junction is extremely busy and gets compacted often as there is no order to it at all. I think the crossing closest in the photo would cause accidents and be possibly harmful to pedestrians.

I'm not sure this will work as it's a main road from one side of town to the other.

Yes this is quite a dangerous area and causes lots of traffic delays as well

I'm not sure what you are proposing.

Not enough room for traffic to turn

A pedestrian crossing on the corner would eliminate confusion between drivers and people wanting to cross at angel bakery corner

Difficulty crossing the road in this area.

My only comment would be on the materials used to enable these improvements. On the proposals, it is shown that paving bricks will be used on the A40 by the Angel corner and I don't believe this type of material will cope with the high amount of traffic that uses that route daily. There have been issues with paving blocks by bean and bread and what was cable news by Tesco which receives a fraction of the amount of traffic in comparison.

Need to address traffic flow issues and help peds cross safely instead of blindly lurching out into traffic

"Shop fronts should reflect the character of the town and buildings they are attached too. Not corporate design. There are already excellent examples (and some shockers)

More areas for rest and conversation "

"It is a bit tight to go towards gateway church

With buses and HGV so will need improvement "

Please make it clear that turning into monk street is NOT crossing the main road (some newcomers think that monk onto castle has right of way... it's not obvious)

It is the only way to drive through town so moving bias to pedestrians is wrong, should improve traffic flow instead

We need to reduce the large vehicle traffic on this corner and prioritise pedestrians.

why when cars currently park on the existing pavements and pedestrian crossing ever day

As a driver this corner makes zero sense it had to be fixed but also the parking by the take outs will need to be addressed

Include cyclists not just peds.

Traffic already gridlocked you just going to make it worse

See above

Its needed but with it also being the A40 it needs to be realistic about the amount of traffic and size of HGV's making this idea possible

Will add greatly to the immediate area of the town

Dangerous corner

This will help link the areas enormously.

stop access to Castle St during the day - this is a dangerous crossing for pedestrians and also for vehicles

Again this area is a nightmare especially when large lorries or buses need to get past, also for when you want to drive up past the Angel small road and no one lets you causing more traffic.

Lowering of pavements at the corner is a concern, especially turning up to the castle, pedestrians very rarely turn to check for traffic behind them, with no raised pavement at all I doubt anyone will check for a car and just walk out.

Proposed improvements are not worthwhile and will make insignificant impact if implemented.

This proposal is nonsense, this is a main route through town, removing railings and kerbs will make it more dangerous, have you even studied the traffic that uses this turn? What's needed is traffic lights incorporating pedestrian crossings, then railing to make people use them, not let them wander about!

Yes this really needs better pedestrian crossings

LOWER CASTLE STREET BEING NARROW IS CHARACTERISTIC OF IT PAST....LEAVE IT

This is an incredibly difficult corner to navigate whether in a car or on foot. Any improvement that does not hinder traffic flow would be welcome. If traffic flow was to be affected I think you would see traffic build up very quickly here.

I think it would be better traffic light controlled

This is just a complete waste of money.

Again so long as it's not made too much more difficult to drive there as it's already based on people giving way and being nice to each other, and some people just aren't nice! Maybe zebra crossings so it's easier to tell who has right of way

See previous comments.

Need to put in clear pedestrian crossing lines where minor road meet major ones to demonstrate pedestrians have clear right of way over vehicles turning into these roads.

Enforce parking regulations. Cross Street has become a car park for Luigis and Cwtch Cafe owners and staff

You're looking to change an A road that is a main road through the town. Market street is already largely pedestrianised and there isn't a need to include this corner. You don't need to change this part of town.

I don't think the proposals will in any way fix the problem. Must remain tarmac for durability. Possibly rumble strips or other warning of tight corner. Speed cameras generally to ensure 20 mph limit is maintained would be useful along A40 and Pen Y Pound. Signage to Castle St car park already exists.

No

"Currently a dangerous place to cross as a pedestrian with vehicles attacking you from all sides, improvements are very necessary.

Cars are still part of the transportation of people to these places...you will just put extra pressure on the roads if you divert all cars away from the town centre.

Underwhelmed and feel that traffic is still king. I would like to see much more effort and ideas into how the cars, buses and Lorries could be diverted away from this section, so it can be pedestrianised, including the 1-way street that leads up to the castle.

There would need to be some restriction on HGVs using this road to make this effective

The only long-term solution is to get the A40 out of the town but I suspect that is beyond the remit of this project!

Definitely agree with this - it's not fun trying to cross the road at this point!

This corner holds up alot of traffic when hgv get stuck better plans are needed

I totally agree that improvement is needed. However, the above shows a 'wider pedestrian area' could also be interpreted by drivers as 'no pedestrian ares'. If you stand near the Angel Bakety, you will see large lorries mount the pavement in order to turn right. The people in your photo would be run over. Have you considered a traffic light system at the corner where all traff8c is paused before and after the junction to allow pedestrians to cross . They are in operation in Tokyo , Japan if you need to see an example.

As above.

This area has been a dangerous pinch point, pedestrians find it difficult to cross the road and other pedestrians can't pass them as they wait for a safe gap in the traffic. It often results in pedestrians walking onto the road.

A huge problem is the large HGVs and Buses negotiating the corner. I'm not sure what the solution is to that though."

Doubt it will be possible until A40 road diverted around the town

Big vehicles do this corner

Disabled parking in the town needs addressing.

Traffic lights to stop two directional traffic fighting to get round that turn would help, and give pedestrians a fighting chance.

The safety aspects is all ok already

importance of finding radical solution to "Angel Corner" for both large lorries an pedestrian safety.

I think we need to stop large HGV coming round there unless specifically for access

Again , the A40 should be given priority, followed by access vehicular access to Lower Castle Street.

This is not going to change pedestrian safety!

Getting around town at present is hard enough without any further detours or restrictions!

If the wider space is for cars yes, lorries struggle as it is.

Large lorries use this route - is there any other route?

Clearer road marking would make it safer. Too many cars cut the corner turning into Monk Street.

Again, we refer to Q13 and management of the A40.

This needs a much more radical solution rather than just paving.

This is a good start, but again, until large lorries and cars travelling through to brecon are diverted, this will remain an unpleasant area.

Upper Cross Street

Would bring more people into town

More waste bins for takeaway snacks

Waste of money it's good enough

The huts have had their day and no longer look attractive

Remove the huts outside the Kings head.

I like pedestrianisation but access is still required for business and hopefully "pavement cafes/restaurants" will still be encouraged to give continental feel when weather allows

Remove the 'pandemic cabins' and have removable street furniture. CLEARWAY tactile paving through for blind/partially sighted.

No mention of business interest and viability. Some car traffic is needed. Images are too prettified and out of keeping. This is a working market town, not a Lego set.

Will be more inviting for everyone.

Personally I think the road should be reopened.

It needs to be fully pedestrianised as does outside Tesco. That means no cars.

Why should this be changed at the moment it is shut off between 10 and 4 which suits a lot of people

As someone who was instrumental in pedestrianising Frogmore Street (successful beyond our wildest dreams) how could I not be in favour of similar plans for Upper Cross Street. However where will the funds come from?

Non parking on this street by the market would make the area more appealing for pedestrians to sit out and enjoy the space.

N/A

Need to keep vehicle access out of hours

The pedestrianisation of the rest of the town centre has been a great improvement. Upper Cross street can be closed to traffic and the Brewery Yard car park only accessed and exited from Lion Street.

I would miss the lovely pennant slab pavements currently here

This is a great area and needs more continental look

More places for our young people, more improvements that are children and young people focused. Give our young people especially older children some thoughts in your way of improving the streets. There is nothing there that are suitable for them. Take guidance from other European countries that make their street more friendly to young people and young people.

This will ruin the town. WE need lower business rates to attract businesses, not driving them away. This project is just a waste of money

Levels surfaces may make life trip-hazard free, but they often seem to encourage casual parking practices.

Why is open on a Sunday when there are events and markets going on? Its needs to be consistent.

The pedestrianisation should be a principal focus throughout Abergavenny

"Works well when gates are closed but would be better with nicer surfacing.

Could raised bollards be used instead of gate - like Pontypridd town centre."

Already quite good

I feel there is still the need for the road in the evenings to access business in that area.

Yes, but this is not a priority in the 'to do' list? Long term a nice to have to match the repaved area further up.

If the street is closed off for cars in the evening, it will prevent residents accessing the chippy, collecting people from the angel, increase traffic by the esso junction and more

As previously, enforcement of pedestrian areas are needed as this is not currently implemented. Frogmore Street currently used as a short cut for vehicles and car park and dangerous for pedestrian, even though clearly signposted as a pedestrian area

Exclude traffic except evening deliveries. Remove wooden sheds to restore vista to Town Hall.

Need to take into consideration regular loading and unloading needs of businesses, especially at The Borough Theatre.

Cross street particularly lower cross street needs a bit of improvement

Please see previous comments above re: pedestrianisation to mean "no cycling" true pedestrianisation required.

need to improve cycle access on this street

Again more signage for accessibility and something about people who are drunk late at night

More dedicated pedestrian areas would make the town safer and better to walk around along with improving accessibility

Yes but again no point putting in garden tubs and seating if never maintained - equally must not be overdone and degrade authentic nature of the town. Equally streets need to be cleaned - currently lack of jet washing means streets and Kirby's shop fronts are dirty and stained. Shops should be required to clean their entrances

Definitely stop people driving up Cross Street unless for a specific reason.

Yes but level access needed and no need for patterned walkways, which are confusing for people with impaired eyesight.

In principle I agree but need to see specific proposals. In general it is working quite well.

It already is so why waste money on this?

Not convinced it will support street activity and retailers and hospitality lining that street. Needs a clear zone for them to occupy, delineated physically, with a new kit of parts to allow them to install well designed shelters for their customers from inclement weather (both heat and rain) in the street. It all looks too twee and tidy. Bench forms as shown don't allow for face-to-face conversations. No sign of how 10.00am to 4.00pm control of that space will be conducted.

The design looks quite attractive

Seems disruptive and kind of pointless

I need to be able to park here - at the moment it is a mess re the cabins and limited parking. I don't come into town because it is so difficult.

No. I support the current closing off of the street 10am to 5pm, but not a total pedestrianisation. The elderly and disabled would be unable to use central town / market / one stop shop / banks / butcher etc without the disabled parking cross street enables early morning. My 88yr old mother is one such individual

Visual improvements, yes, but needs to be maintained as a vehicle access thoroughfare.

Get rid of the huts in the street. And disable people allowed to park. I support a gentleman, who likes to go for coffee, but we are unable to park near a cafe. We have to go out of town. Disgusting

Plant trees

I believe that access should be available to disabled drivers into town instead of them having to travel out of the town to be able to access what they need

Pedestrianise as much of the centre as possible

Keep this area closed to traffic (10am to 4pm) on 7 days a week.

Improve state of building on corner of Market Street/Cross Street.

it would be nice but this is already a pleasant street. The investment needs to go in making more of the town accessible.

This is fine as it is. The vehicle access is very useful at the times when its open.

That looks more pleasant than present.

Wonderful!

"Shop frontage and pavements need improvement as town is starting to look tired in areas which would help greater diversity

I feel that a lot less people would come to town if it was to become only accessible by foot. A lot of the town's people drive directly into town as close as they can to shops etc. Especially disabled, elderly and parents.

Yes, this would help the shops a lot as a lot of shoppers don't travel that far down

Yes definitely. Less cars in town the better. Social areas are so needed

Same as comments above

Poor mobility people rely on driving into town

Absolutely and think this needs to be made a priority.

As above, sustainable drainage (rain gardens etc) and provision designed to be inclusive.

No closing the road at night time

This will give better continuity from the pedestrian area.

The pedestrianisation of this area has been a real success!

Could use more trees.

This will only work if such street furniture and greenery are properly maintained

The town can be difficult to drive around, specifically along Park Road with its multiple junctions and traffic lights and this isn't helped by blocking another route

This will encourage more anti social behaviour, it a market town with shops with useful items you can buy

The more improvements introduced the greater the need for alternative routes around the town rather than through it.

Makes a lot of sense

Taking more disabled parking away. Detrimental to businesses. Please stop attacking car users.

Great idea and it would improve things.

some of the paving is already getting damaged especially where Baker St traffic joins what should really be a pedestrian area.

I love it

No comment

BUT Really important to allow access for the elderly and disabled to shops in pedestrianised areas if you are going to restrict vehicles. What about a shopmobility scheme/scooter hire at the bus station?

Proposed improvements are not worthwhile and will make insignificant impact on street activity if implemented.

This will impact heavily on already stretched business, how will deliveries be made? The present closed and open time periods are more than adequate.

"Open damn street IT shut for covid..pods are pain

Access neededNOMORE PEDESTRIAN ISATION

I would like to see aesthetic improvements to the corner of market street and proper signage to lead people from the high street down market street, the businesses at the top of market street do not accurately reflect what is on offer further down.

This would be better pedestrianised with vehicle access on particular times for deliveries etc.

Although this in effect has already occurred but this has meant the loss of disabled parking that allowed people to access shops businesses chemists easily.

Will be better for businesses and pedestrians

Market street needs improving. Shame about the old buildings smouldering away. They are a good example of how the streets of Abergavenny looked in the 17th and 18th century.

We have enough pedestrianisation which destroys business. The balance is good now with deliveries and also High Street provides an escape route.

"Do away with the dirty cabins.

Enforce parking regulations

We need more than drinking coffee in street."

This makes sense as it is already largely pedestrianised

Leave as is. It works well and everyone understands timings. Little cabins are fine. Everyone understands tarmac/ parking.

No

Upper cross street is currently very enclosed due to a number of pods located for some businesses and parked cars on both sides. This is a key gateway into the town centre and needs to be inviting.

Great idea but make sure litter cigarettes and general mess are constantly monitored or it will become a mess in no time at all. Sadly our community isn't very bin friendly.

From the bus station to the Angel needs cleaning up. Shop fronts look shabby, pavement is usually dirty. Does not look appealing at all.

How will Delivery van/lorry's get though and also electric bollards so Deliverys can be made anytime speed limit 5mph

This is vague! What does "people friendly" mean? It's already pedestrianised at times! If it benefits the immediate business owners, yes! If it's a case of just having more planters and benches - no!

Make sure parking only for the disabled and plenty of room for outdoor café seating

Worry for trader access to market hall

If traffic is still allowed down here, 4pm - 10am, how will HGV deliveries manoeuvre through safely?

The changes to the street because of covid were very welcome, so building upon this would be great

Local people need to be able to drive up these streets to collect and deliver. The charity shops would suffer cause people won't be able to drop off outside for example

"again, the benefits to be accrued are unlikely to justify the short term disruption to the businesses along here.

I would also question the premise that a pavement extending from shop front all the way across to the opposite shop front offers any visual advantage over a traditional street, with a road surface of a different material. Randomly placed planters do nothing to enhance the streetscape, apart from trying to make an historic street appear to be a late 20th century precinct. "

This terrible - completely spoils the look of Abergavenny. An iconic location which will be spoilt by pedestrianisation. The area is sectioned off for several hours a day anyway.

This area is already customer friendly with the road closed to vehicles between 10-4pm enabling street activities to take place

Would welcome more attractive and less permanent outdoor seating areas along the street. It is important to retain the open style.

Need to give greater attention to Market Street as part of this proposal.

See the new additions to Broad Street in Oxford, where a wide road has become a really vibrant public space. There are pop-up food stalls, lots of bicycle parking. Consider bringing some colour into the design. There are other options than grey paving! Broad Street has this lovely geometric pattern in yellow that compliments the planting and just brings a lot of life to the space.

Market Hall

Excellent idea for it to be use all year round

The quality of acoustics is appalling and needs improving for festivals

The market is a great building but is crumbling and the acoustics are not good

Just repair the cobblestone will be enough

Just keep it well maintained and provide more seating

The market needs to maintain its current feel as that is the main draw

This is one of Abergavenny's strengths- be careful to build on it, not destroy it.

Changes to make Market Space and Brewery Yard more versatile/user friendly great idea HOWEVER don't lose sight of/change the uniqueness of the building and area.

Only small improvements needed. There have already been many improvements in recent years, and these need to bed down and be assessed.

The market could take cues from Newport Market, making it more of a food destination and support local street food sellers on a more permanent basis.

Very important to retain the market hall as a centre of access and especially ensuring that commercial stall holders can continue to use the space.

This is a fabulous venue that could be used for many more activities, celebrations etc throughout the year.

We've spent enough money on these areas.

"Also hold more events there. ie...

. Antiques fairs, food fairs, music, classic car shows, eating and drinking events, bring your own meal, dog shows, boot sale, bigger Saturday markets, etc etc but make this area the place to come to in Abergavenny but don't charge to enter or just a minimum amount.

"The market is good but probably in need of updating.

I'm not clear what you are proposing.Sorting out the lighting - LED lights and more flexible switching - was recommended in an energy efficiency report more than a decade ago.By choosing to ignore it, MCC has wasted tens of thousands of pounds already.

N/A

Important to keep the light bright colourful vibe in the market

It's already a good area

Yes definitely. Think about children please!

"Need to

Promote and expand and make sure events full "

Splendid place

Don't disappear the market hall or spoil its uniqueness

Already good

the market is the hub of abergavenny - anything to enhance it would be useful

It is a great space that could be used a lot more

If that photograph is retaken in the coming years, it would be FABULOUS to see young people hanging out in the space. The Town needs to hook in to the 'next thing' post 'traditional' market stalls.

Please keep the old feel and look of the town. Old cobbled streets, quality stone walls and remember the heart of our town is rural. Please don't city-fy the areas with sheets of plastic, metal and end up making it look like an airport

Market is such an asset. It should be valued and town built around it

Budget for the facilitation of innovative community events, especially for families and young people.

Encourage new and different stalls and include more workshops and events in the market hall for families

Some smaller meeting rooms for local businesses I want to run a global event but have not been able to find the appropriate meeting space

The proposals of how the change would look / affect use are a little unclear. Whilst I am in favour of what is written in the plans I wouldn't want the market to change too dramatically

Massive asset to town - so much more potential - evening cinema - music events - need for more variety - book markets - craft - theatre - public speaking events - guest speakers - great space. Brewery yard is totally under-utilised -

What about putting money into valuable services that have lost their venue? Such as Community Learning, who provided essential opportunity for those most at need.

Recognise that Community Learning needs a larger space. Former Community Learning building on Old Hereford Road had 3 classrooms, a kitchen and garden available 9am to 9pm. Now restricted to part time use of Community Room in the library and temporary use of Mayor's Parlour. High number of Community Learning classes have been cancelled, causing real cuts in service provision. Needs an accessible new space with access to parking nearby to help disabled people access community learning classes: consider old library building and create a new community learning hub by the cinema and improved square.

Care to be taken not to drive stallholders away by raising charges to pay for improvements. Details required

Need to read this section more carefully, but anything that genuinely supports the market operation and has the stall holders blessing has my vote.

We do not want to lose the unique character of the Market Hall

The brewery yard is already a brilliant example of placemaking. Community initiatives like the annual art installations in the market are fantastic. There are various schemes run out of the market (ebike trial scheme) that are not well publicised.

I think the market area is fine as it is and shouldn't be a priority

Get something happening here every day - reasons to visit - and tell the story of Abergavenny Market Town

Lino flooring????! Have the planners gone completely bonkers? This facility has only recently been upgraded / improved. Let's keep what little historical architecture we still have left in town.

This is wasted potential, use it.

Fundamental part of social Abergavenny

The old character of the building needs to be maintained.

You spoilt the use of the market by changing the car park

Toilets

You are throwing more money at something which clearly isn't working. You have already invested in the market.

"Unique resource.

Encourage support of traders/crafters."

"The market is the most important building in Abergavenny. If it isn't improved it will suffer and so will the appeal of Abergavenny. It is the gem in the town without it. Abergavenny will become just another empty once market town. It needs better facilities for traders and public as currently not fit for purpose.

New toilets, roof maintenance and stop the pigeons is essential.

It should be a priority not a second rate proposals.

Without the market = no thriving Abergavenny."

This requires substantial investment and building a stronger community and supporting local groups and businesses to access the space

"The market hall has improved. They work hard at presenting the regular market and special events and activities (the 'street' market evening food markets seem well supported.)

Further improvements would be good, it is especially cold for one thing. However carefully so it doesn't spoil or lose its old traditional market feel."

As long as the the character of the building and the fact its a market are not lost, Newport market development is a travesty and was why a lot of people went there, it was a good market in a good place - its not now

"Yes as many community events as possible. Market is a lovely place to

Host them "

Not sure what you are proposing

Ensure there are low cost units for start ups and non profits

Provide more events in the market. On the street food nights provide more music to create atmosphere and tables and chairs. Definitely not enough chairs.

Very important

Are we a market town or not because you seem to suggesting something unrecognisable

The market is the jewel in the towns crown!

I don't know what these supposed improvements are so can't comment

It's a f market leave it alone

But dont spend too much on it - there's so much else that needs attention

The market hall is a local treasure and can only benefit from the proposal

could the market be open on more days?

Think you need to do more focus on the library which is no longer a quiet space to work in. For kids activities there should be a private room so that people working at computers shouldn't have to hear it. It's like being in a daycare centre and why should adults who need to work struggle with getting some peace due to these regular kid activities.

Not enough seating

A focal and identifying feature of Y Fenni.

Unsure about hte nature of the proposals

use of market should be supported but not subsidised.

The market would benefit from permanent stalls,for small business to rent as a start up,like is done in St Nicolas market in Bristol

I hear that the floor is being replaced - from a circular economy and cost perspective this decision is perplexing. Is there a strong rationale??

"Upgrade market last time caused loss stalls

No need change....but more uses ok"

Dont improve it for the sake of it. It works. Upgrade the electrics but dont touch the flooring - its authentic

The sort of area that needs upgrading

Take inspiration from the rejuvenation of Newport indoor market which is now a thriving place to visit, with a facelift, proper little (affordable) booths/shops, a food/drink quarter.

Minimal proposals suggested - tensile structures and awnings. Further investigation needed. It works well as it is community hub with all events and library/ council info as well as theatre.

No

I am all for improvements, but what about the valuable MCC service that lost its venue, with no support from MCC to source a new suitable venue? I had been referring people to Community Learning in Abergavenny for over 10 years, Community learning is no longer accessible for many people.

The market as it stands has gone downhill in terms of vendors and hasn't moved with the times. Investment in people and looking for new ideas needs to be undertaken as the fabric has received significant support over the last 15 years with the brewery yard scheme and market/hub works.

My feeling is that the market is generally successful but to compete against larger shops enhancements that encourage people to use the market should be considered.

Start with better support of the business within the indoor market better working conditions like warm washing toilets for staff

Much more could be made of this area and the Borough Theatre - placemaking is more than built, structural work but really needs to make existing assets like Borough and Melville much stronger foci for town's art and culture offering - for local people and visitors.

Yes, the indoor market is the heart of the town! The end of the month food markets are a great way to socialise and support local businesses and pop - ups!

The key to the market hall's success is its flexibility as an event space. The main hall area should be kept clear of permanent units.

The quicker the better.

Fantastic space, real asset to the town.

The market is as it's always been....it's an incredibly important source of Abergavenny's market town history and as such should be left as it is

I think crafts in the market is a waste of a resource and indoors should be primarily food and drink and crafts should be moved elsewhere

How long is it since the last market renovation? Another one within the next two decades should be considered to be a complete waste of money.

Indoor market is a fantastic facility - attracts many visitors.

Changes to the market hall need careful consideration. Existing traders need to be confident that their business will improve.

Would like to see more ambitious plans to improve the market building itself to work towards this goal. Improve signage so visitors can see what is on offer in and around the hall.

The plans for vinyl flooring would ruin the Victorian feel which is part of its charm. Too many old market halls have been spoiled by modernisation. They end up neither modern nor traditional. Doors have already been installed.

Bailey Park

"We are lucky to have a park as long as it's kept tidy perhaps more bins & dog bins

More facilities for young people eg decent skate boarding

It's already a great site in a beautiful setting. Any way to engage more younger people is welcome

A cafe and open air pool would be excellent

Bring back the lido

A skate park is a great idea as teenagers seem to have little to do

Superb open space that is there to be used but needs odd visits by wardens : PCSOs to ensure it is not abused

See 15 above.

Some enhancements may be possible but should be kept to a minimum. A youth shelter may be appropriate.

There are other smaller parks around town that could do with some attention

The park requires more funding to improve the facilities for families and make secure to avoid damage / destruction. The pavilion would make a good cafe and more sporting facilities like tennis courts etc.

Fabulous if young people could meet in a safe space.

I think the links are fine.

Continue to plant more. Bring Lido back. Stop youngsters trashing the area at night

I agree with better activities for the general public . There are enough links into town we just need better signage.

Anti-social behaviour and litter are a problem here.

Existing links adequate. Young people already use the park in the evenings and cause damage

N/A

A cycle pump track should be constructed in the gap between the playground and the asphalted flat area.

Definitely. Strongly miss the swimming pool. Such happy times. Splash pad? Attract young families!

Ensure the rugby club do a clean up after events and games. Always a mess

Stop dog walkers letting dogs off leads. The response when reminding a dog walker with 2 dogs they should be on a lead was " who's to stop me". Its no good having rules if they cannot be replaced.

How about making this space more inclusive eg for events that support the Wellbeing plan and cover all protected characteristics and demographics

People still allow their dogs off the leads and they defecate on the sports' pitches. No deterrent.

"Bring back the swimming pool/lido would be nice if not the paddling facilities for younger children.

Also banning dog walkers form the park - dog mess is still an issue with a need for wardens."

No lido

It would be nice to include "enhanced facilities for young people to meet in a positive and safe space" in the town centre, as well as in the park. At the moment the options for young people to congregate seem to be limited to a bandstand in the park or Morrisons carpark.

there is already a lot of community input into Bailey Park. i don't think it needs better linkages into the town centre as it is pretty easy to get from the park to the town centre and it is pretty safe as there are plenty of pedestrian crossings. I'm not sure about enhancing facilities for young people as there are a number of activities for older people and often when the two are mixed, one or the other are not happy.

"Bailey Park is a great space. More could be done to improve the entrance from Fairfield by the Rugby Club.

It is a totally different place at night though. I was walking the dog in the dark and somone had a child playing in the kids park while also having 2 dogs in the play park running around and wouldn't see in the dark if they went to the toilet. She was just using a phone light to watch the child.

Seeing the rubbish on the rugby stand in the morning or young people on bikes at night bouncing on the kids trampoline in the play park. Damage to the young trees also. The see saw that we had in the play park kept being broken."

If that photograph is retaken in the coming years, it would be FABULOUS to see young people hanging out in the space. The Town needs to hook in to the 'next thing' post 'traditional' park and band stand.

Agree that young people need more spaces but it can't always be outside

Enforcement of pedestrian areas

Budget for more events for young people and the facilitation on in situ workshops in Bailey Park. Opening a cafe/small events space.. Budget to research successful park regeneration projects, with the specific focus on well being and young people. Integration of community made and commissioned local large artworks.

More activities required for teenagers and youth groups but these need to be closely monitored. There is often anti-social behaviour in bailey park and faifield car park and this needs to be addressed. Hopefully better youth facilities will help

"Thanks to Friends' groups and Keep Abergavenny Tidy group who pick up after the parties, gatherings and young folk who leave behind empty pizza boxes, cans, etc.

How about a dedicated dog exercise area in Bailey Park?"

Some more activities for teens I see them wandering around both town and Bailey park. If they had a pool hangout spot or lido it would be better

Small Running cycling track around park - improve bowling club and other facilities - more garden areas - but not places for kids to just hang around and deface.

Bailey Park is already well used. All dogs should be on a lead however and enhanced facilities for young people is of paramount importance

Strong need for a youth club, youth events, safe spaces for young people to gather. Consider adding picnic tables, table tennis tables, improve access to sports eg netball/basketball/cycling/skateboarding in the park.

Need for better facilities for young people to hang out is a top priority for me. Evening events to bring people into the park and discourage anti-social behaviour.

But again it already is linked. Why waste money on pavement width and extra crossings?

Very important to create an area for young people to hang out

I think Bailey Park is already good. Not a priority compared to areas in town centre

Need more activities for the younger generation

This is not a park it's more a sport area not a lot of play or activities for the kids. They took the pool away there's nowhere for little children and nothing for older kids compared to other areas around Wales Monmouthshire as it's got to be falling very short it's more designed for the elderly.

Links are fine as they are, maybe need to segregate pedestrians through the car park or divert them through the park to Morrisons better

Already has it, had investment and has become a hub for small anti-social fires.

Only if it is Monteith CCTV...

Return of the lido would be amazing.

I live in Park Lane. The park is a disgrace. The friends of Bailey Park are a godsend. Vandalism and anti-social behaviour early hours of the morning. .

Bailey Park is such a huge asset to the town. I would support any improvement here. Especially for sporting facilities for older children and teenagers.

Signage

More stuff for younger people, renovation/growth of the kids play area - could be much bigger and more like Parc Bryn Bach as it's used so much by so many families

Yes. Please finish spending the active travel budget on Abergavenny and bring some active travel intervention to Chepstow. There is no active travel network here, minimal specific provisions for people on foot or on bikes. What do we have to do to get some attention for citizens down here?

But only with enhanced facilities for young people to meet in a positive and safe space - however Friends of Bailey Park won't go for this as you can see on FB groups.

Support "Friends of Bailey Park" in their efforts to keep gardens well tended and consult/include them in development plans.

"Wonderful space for all ages.

Better signage to gardens/facilities required.

More volunteers needed to maintain standards.

Keep dogs on leads."

Reduce traffic so it's away from the centre

take down the signs that talk about domestic violence every 10m when people are trying to enjoy a nice relaxing walk around a country park! not the place for it.,

It's a lovely Park and they are all good ideas to enhance it further.

Yes a space where dogs can be off leads. A space where people can sit. A space where sports can happen and peeople

Can watch "

Same comments as above. There are a lot of statements but no detail. So difficult to give an opinion.

Don't waste money, fill in pot holes

Too much vandalism.

Strongly agree with there being more provision for young people.

Ensure provision connects, enlarges and improves habitats for biodiversity across the town (not just existing green spaces) and takes note of https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/6398afa2ae5518732f04f791/646342387a36a25062656b03_Safer%20Parks%20Executive%20Summary%20Final%20-%20Web.pdf

There needs to toilets for people who visit the park

Particularly in the provision of meeting spaces for young people

Add a coffee shop or retail unit for people to rent out.

Should be a park without labels, why do you have to label everthing

Would like to see use diversified away from sport alone - during the pandemic families and young people had more opportunity to use the park for picnics, games etc. currently men's rugby/sport is prioritised, would like to see more balanced approach which meets the needs of everyone- younger people, women and families, older people especially.

Vandalism is a problem - more CCTV needed

Young people don't alway want or have to have their spaces in a park. Young people should be welcomed and have a space in the centre of the town instead of being encouraged out on the edge

None

it is a great asset and thanks to our community it feels like a really good inclusive space. There are still vandalism issues and more policing would be good.

Never go there so can't comment

Needs to be safe at night. Currently it's a venue for young people to smoke weed all evening. Also, Y Fenni needs more accessible spaces for off-leash dog exercise (the Meadows are just too boggy in the winter). Not saying this needs to be Bailey Park, but we mustn't presume that wilder, country dog walks are suitable for citizens restricted by being wheelchair users.

Every other playground in Monmouthshire has been updated, except Abergavenny. This provision shouldn't just be for younger children. Equipment should be provided for kids moving on from primary school into high school. A park warden is desperately needed as well as functioning toilets. If the lido is not to be reinstated, that area should be utilised for older kids, a skate park, youth centre or other facilities should be installed.

Absolutely support the development of facilities for young people and inter-generational activity here.

Would prefer enhanced facilities for all people. No need for better linkages.

Whatever is done in the park will be vandalised in no time, we have a scumbag underbelly in this town who everyone likes to hide underneath pretty slogans

"Park used to be hub for families.....it not same now

Not sure any upgrade will be left alone by some people "

I think the facilities are good as they are however the rugby stand is a congregation for youngsters and not in a good way. I think there are too many dogs on leads as well with a lot of dog mess that isn't cleaned up which is a major health hazard. It is all well and good putting up signage but there is no deterrent. It should be policed in some way and dogs should be on leads in that park with fines being issued.

Why not do what local people have asked for for years & return the outdoor swimming pool

A cafe and some decent toilets that are open every day would be good. I remember Abergavenny Band playing in the bandstand.

Need a swimming pool/lido for young people. The swimming pool facilities for all ages in Abergavenny are abysmal. Time slots so limited as it is shared with schools and then even if you can make the time slot you are lucky to get a parking slot.

No problem with this

No mention of restoring the Lido which is one thing that would improve activity for young people and enhance Bailey Park offer. Investment should go here instead of re-paving streets around town.

No

Vandalism is already a problem in Bailey Park unfortunately...you wouldn't support the swimming pool being reinstated but now "enhanced facilities" for younger people...makes no sense!

There hasn't been any mention of the leisure centre/gyms etc which are important for well being and incredibly hard to access for most people in Abergavenny. Could activity spaces be something that could be included in any revamping of Abergavenny

The park is well maintained by a group of volunteers. The area where the lido used to be could be utilized better. Tennis court, fountain, picnic tables?

I would like to see safe spaces for young people prioritised in the plan.

Bailey park is lovely and the volunteers do a great job

providing safe spaces for young people to meet and do stuff needs bigger priority overall in the proposals

Young people urgently need safe spaces to hang out without being accused of being up to no good or intimidating (albeit unintentionally) older folk.

Bailey park is a beautiful park, however youths gather there at night - regardless of the cctv! The carpark is horrendous at night with no police presence! The carpark should be locked at night!

I fear vandalism will ruin anything done here

Young people would like a place which offers shelter from the elements and charge their phones!

Definitely need safer spaces for young / teens

As long as the facilities for young people do not become troublesome and litter in the park. The hours need to be sociable to nearby residents

apart from the better links which are not required.

I think that Abergavenny doesn't need to be changed in the ways that is proposed in this survey. After living in Abergavenny for my whole life and seeing numerous changes to the town, this would spoil the town completely and I do not support this.

There appears to be a lack of facilities for young people. Vital to address this to support young families in the area.

Is there any funding available for an inclusive youth centre 12 - 24 years which maybe able to also provide skills teaching by volunteers as well as other cultural activities. A survey around the secondary schools in the area to gain this age group's opinions.

Particular need for engaging with young people to improve this space to better meet their needs and requirements.

Bailey park could be managed for enhanced biodiversity.

Gabbs Square

such an unloved "pointless" area at the moment. About time to incorporate this part to the rest of the won center.

Excellent idea for people to meet with a takeaway & chat

The landscaping shown is soulless and better suited to an urban environment than a beautiful rural market town.

Signage to let people know about it and disabled parking required for cinema

A lovely space which is not currently sufficiently used

Not until a scheme is in place for the old Richards space which would lend itself to being a square with small shops around it.

Plenty of seating so people can enjoy the space

This feels like a very small space to try and improve when larger spaces could benefit from the investment more

This seems to be less of a priority than other proposals

It is a bit scruffy but it has the potential to be a focus not just a passing point

Addition of a service - coffee mobile/snack stop/ice cream vendor; would cinema consider opening a small cafe/would a food outlet already close by take mobile catering on to draw people into the space and encourage them to stay.

This appears too radical and out of place. There would be a loss of special character, as this could be seen anywhere.

The illustrations are very misleading, as they exaggerate the distances between buildings

Better for everyone to access.

This area is obviously close to my heart and one of the biggest issues is parking, we have lost the library, courts and police station all of which generated lots of traffic so I got lots of double yellow lines but not now.

More trees

Gabb Square needs improving and maybe the paths.

Proposals to improve this area were made pre-Covid. Your proposals (above) seem unnecessarily drastic and expensive. Are we planning to land private planes and helicopters there?

N/A

Looks good

More trees along paths.

"Just how large do you want to have us believe this area is?"

Stopping traffic from turning left out of Princes Street will help reduce parking loads."

Cannabis smoking still a regular event here as it is in the little park near Bannons and Prince's Street. We do not want to sit there no matter how tired.

Yes almost a missing link. More use for Made in Monmouthshire type events

See it cared for a lovely quiet space

It would be beneficial to the town to redevelop underutilised land in the area and relocate use inappropriate to a town centre location.

Yes, but we subtle paving design that reflects the qualities and colours in the town.

Budget and support for the cinema to continue as a community creative space. Better use of the Old Library as a community space to encourage more footfall to this area.

Is there potential to expand this idea to include the old fire-damaged Richards site - perhaps a retail colonade on one side with accommodation above and the rest a public space. The fire has opened up a strong appealing vista showing natural environment (Blorengge) and heritage (restored buildings behind).

Is there money to implement the original design which was excellent.

A much neglected corner of town

More trees please

something needs doing but this visual is horrendous!

I agree with opening up the area making it more pedestrian friendly and providing additional seating and greenery. I would advocate for meadow flowers over just trees and shrubs as they are attractive and provide environmental benefits. I would want to know who will be responsible for any seating areas, if they don't belong to a business will people actually feel comfortable sitting there but if they were outdoor seating associated with the cinema, cafe or another business the seating could be really lovely. Like previous comment I am concerned with the aesthetic looking too generic and not in keeping with the character of the town

Yes but again don't over do it and any green areas must be maintained and not allowed to decay - not in favour of degrading all of towns authenticity

Yes! this is underused and the shops there are not well signposted.

Allow Community Learning to use the old library 9am to 9pm. This would bring in extra community feeling and safety to this area. Increase funding for Community Learning to engage with arts projects and classes, wellbeing courses and events, employability skills, support for disabled people and people with mental health issues. There is a real opportunity to turn the empty library building into a hub for the community. Funding would be needed to make the building accessible for all.

Expensive and not a high priority

The reason St Johns square is so successful is that it has permanent seating and table surfaces that allow people to talk to each other face to face. While this seating arrangement shown here with planting (maintained and designed by who) protects those on the square (triangle) from cars trying to park and the passing traffic, it may not encourage that sociability. Does the owner of the Grofield want to inhabit the square? One of its challenging qualities is the blank facade its full length created by the cinema use. They could with the right kit run outdoor cinema in the better months, projecting onto that blank wall; but the space needs to be designed with the thought in mind that the cinema may not survive and what is most likely to replace it... social rent housing? The lower part of Baker Street seems the same width as the upper part and yet one is one-way and the other is two-way. Shouldn't its design recognise that.

No

Needs to include whatever may be proposed for the Richards site in order for the area to make sense as a whole.

It's nice currently. These proposals all sound like you got a job lot of cobblestones and don't know what to do with them.

Just changing the paving etc doesn't make it better - without cleaning and litter picking. Find ways to keep the cinema and a purpose for this area.

This space needs to be proactively taken care of otherwise you'll just create a space where kids will hang out rather than them having somewhere to go.

It's fine as it is, just needs some TLC

Again, as above for cross street, the need for disabled parking this end of town is required to enable the elderly and disabled to use the town centre

Could be an extension for food fest, vegan fairs etc.

Plenty of seating and tables for socialising.

It has already been landscaped but not maintained. Cheaper to maintain and repair what is there. Imaged show too much fancy block paving. How long would this last till dug up and replaced with temp. tarmac ?

Water fountain

As above

Previous comments apply - ensure softness and rain gardens not just hard landscaping. Engage local people to attempt a significant community / volunteer input into its design and maintenance

Let's change the name. Gabb is not the greatest firm for inclusion, equality, or quality of advice. Let's create something more positive; a mountain or a local hero or author. Owen Sheers square? Griffith Square

It would be great to do something with the old Library building. The walnut tree outside the old Library needs to be protected.

Unsure who would sit in this space as there's not many businesses backing directly onto it.

It's an interesting proposal and a space that needs improving. However, this space is off the beaten track and not as important or contributes as much as other spaces in the town centre that need improving

Excellent idea

This would be really nice

None

The old Richard's store area would be ideal for a park area

Love the look of it - really hoping to keep the cinema as a community cultural hub of some kind.

Waste of Council resource.

I'm not sure many people in the town have even heard of Gabb Square! You mean the old drill hall, looks pretty but high maintenance

"Exit n access is OK

No need improve as town most paved over"

Just keep to basic improvements like normal road surfaces, signs, chase landlords on empty buildings, deal with dilapidated buildings

This space isn't utilised now and I don't think these changes will improve the situation as there is a limited need to access this area. Prioritise other areas

Gabb Square has recently had improvements with new planters. Paving adequate, no need to update. A definite no to repaving adjacent streets. It is false advertising in every way. These are residential streets with a very few non resi uses. Fine as is. Abergavenny is not a theme park.

As a residential area it is not appropriate to create a busy hub in this location. The park is currently used by people looking to enjoy a quiet and private moment, often people eating lunch, reading a book or waiting for someone. Improvements to the planting and biodiversity enhancements could make this a magical place, but to turn it into an overflow area for local cafe/pub establishments would not be appropriate as it would create unacceptable levels of noise, litter and antisocial behaviour. This is not the Post Office Square.

The road is fine as it is....sort out the Richards building.

It is a 'lost space' at the moment. It is to be hoped that the cinema will remain in use and a use can be found for the old library.

pedestrianising and seating key to this

If the end of Baker Street into Frogmore Street were closed off, it would make a lovely space. At the moment Baker Street is blighted by traffic trying to take a short cut.

Seems to be a space that could be more used

Lage cost for little use

Link in old Library gardens and improve the wall around the walnut tree, maybe make seating there?

it's changes will deplete the historical town

important to find good use of Library Building and to work with owners to use the Richards/Fire damage area to best effect.

This square is a much underused underrated space so promoting it and adapting is a positive move, Lewis lane can be such a little hive of activity during the summer with the cafes but being slightly off the beaten track some don't know it's there so any improvements to build this little part would be great

As long as it is not fully pedestrian

waste of money

don't lose parking and accessibility for those less able to access this area. being able to be dropped off here on crutches meant I could access cafes, galleries, cinema and shops like Nicholas without having to walk far

This looks hideous - leave Abergavenny as it is! Ultra modern plans like this completely undermine the town.

This design would completely destroy the charm and identity of the town

Particular attention should be paid to linking this to future proposals and developments of the former Richards Site.

The design needs to change the implied road carriageways so there is not a straight run along Baker Street. Much more radical and subtle thinking is needed.

"Plans need to take into consideration potential new uses for the cinema and old library. There is not really any current reason for people to use the space beyond simply hanging out.

Consider how the Grofield and Emmeline's could use the space. It could be much like St John's Square.

Accessibility

That sounds a good idea with water refills changing rooms for baby's & toilets cycle racks would get more people to come into town

Changing place toilets needed linking with shop mobility facility improvement

Bicycles should not replace the car. The Dutch make it so they share the space.

But something needs to be done about reducing the level of traffic

Town seems quite well served

Power-point of 'access hot-spots' composed by disabled resident on its way.

Not easy to place them.

Facilities for cyclists and provision of water fountains are very important

If people know these facilities were available it would create even more visitors to the town.

Clean public toilets

Agree on the need for changing facilities in the town, shop - mobility not sure about water refill points .

"Making cycling and walking safer for all

N/A

People misusing facilities need to be taken into consideration

Splendid!

Who will pay for this? Stop wasting money! Lower business rates and council tax, encourage business to move here instead of driving us away with high rates! This is just a vanity project.

Water points. Waste of money.

Its a characterful town centre and not a dressing room/refreshment centre. Please don't overegg and spoil this lovely town.

Better access and parking - better signage for Fairfield and extent of pedestrianised areas.

Space in car park for disabled users. New shopmobility will there be appropriate car parking spaces - spaces for 16 scooters and 10 wheelchairs and turning space in front. Also dropped kerbs in front. Needs to be on a bus route to shopmobility. Please consult with shopmobility about this.

"Changing places toilet is great.

Accessibility already fairly good.

Water refill points good.

Secure cycle parking good

Improving the network of town-wide cycle routes in an intelligent and integrated way seems more important to me than building cycle stands. One can park one's bike anywhere (railings, lampposts etc) but the key priority needs to be to make cycling (or walking) into town less dangerous and the preferred option over driving.

no one cycles into Abergavenny, the recent cycle track is never used and is an eyesore and dangerous for pedestrians, cycle racks wont get used. Not many people will use a public water refill point unless it is kept hygienically clean. both of these will be a complete waste of money . enhanced shop mobility may be useful for some people.

Toilets are quite hidden for visitors.

The biggest lacking area of the town

Work with organisations like the sociability app.

Definitely water filling points

To include emphasis on signs at cycle racks re: no cycling in pedestrianised areas

Please keep our WCs open and free to all. Thanks

Some more accessibility for the elderly as my parents struggle at times. More benches to rest and more for neurodiversity

Only if new facilities are regularly cleaned and maintained - see bus stop outside Tesco - lots of money work but no one looks after it - so starts to look crappy

Dropped curbs are needed at all crossing points. Cobbled streets are difficult for disabled people to use. Patterned public squares and pedestrianised streets are difficult for people with visual

impairment. Design of pedestrian areas needs to be level access and uncluttered. Street signage should be minimal and not obstruct access.

Water fountain[s] and more cycle stands needed. Don't know if more disabled access work is needed.

Water refill points would be a complete waste of money. And no one will use the bike racks. No one uses the cycle lane that cost thousands so why waste money!

Should look at Fairfield Car park edge for location of similar facility suggested for Castle Street Car park on site of former pensioners club, to balance up attractiveness of the two main car parks closest to the town. New toilets to replace those in White horse lane

Would definitely attract visitors to the town. Better public conveniences are essential.

More toilets are a must in town. And more benches to sit on

More cycle stands and places like St Mary's and the Bike Shop

We need more cycling infrastructure to ensure safe movement into town for cyclists.

Don't introduce shared sex toilets

As a care home manager we find it difficult to take clients into Abergavenny. Although pebble streets look nice they are terror wheelchairs and there is limited accessibility in general

Bike hire scheme, similar to Boris bikes in London.

Again better access for disabled people

Too much focus on cyclists, too little on the actual shopping areas

Would love to see water refill points, especially in our parks.

Think about maintenance now

I cycle to work every day and am fortunate I can leave my bike in work. Covered bike storage would be a very welcome addition.

Like all of this except the cycle stands in a town centre. Cyclists are supposed to use the roads and this would be encouraging them to cycle on pedestrian ways.

Need more cycle stands in town centre, including some safe undercover storage.

Much better cycle parking is absolutely essential

Some very good points. Need more public toilets generally in town .

As above

See above regarding planning for the future - biodiversity and climate change but also provision for active travel (walking / cycling buses for schools), families and particular recognition of the needs for women and girls to enjoy the space with confidence

Definitely new toilets by the side of Cibi Walk.

There needs to be changing places for people needs it

Like cars - bikes are getting bigger so cycle storage must accommodate that.

Abergavenny has a lot to offer and these proposals will enhance the town for residents and visitors

Existing cycle stands are barely used. Why do we need more?

Water refill points would be great. Babychange don't forget to have accessible for pram.

Definitely free water refills

Consultant an Access Consultant from the NRAC, 'improvements' which I say lightly have been made before on the advice of local access groups who are not qualified in this field and it turned out to be more about aesthetics than accessibility

Improved accessibility around town is required, who will paying for the cleaning of the changing facilities etc?

It is possible to spend public money several times over on attempts to make all things available to everyone. Too much concentration on total inclusivity will result in a ghost town used by nobody.

You have lumped too many things together in this question, more toilets and changing facilities yes, the rest is another waste of money!

Absolutely - there should be better bike facilities and refill points! And make sure it is more accessible for all.

Yes to shopmobility

Improved cycle stands would be great but need improved bike access into city centre too

This would be a good thing. I have a stoma and need to use accessible toilets and a changing area would be welcomed

Yes definitely but a lot of previous questions inhibit disabled people

As long as it fits within the character of the town

Agree in the actual town centre. The concern is that you pedestrianise too much on the edges of the centre which puts people off visiting.

"Can we see vastly more cycle parking and also more fixed pumps and possibly toolkits which were mentioned previously by mcc parking

What little the young people see to have to do is cycle around and use these facilities daily outside my office in lion street"

As previous comments. Cyclists can change in toilets. Disabled toilet with hoist unrealistic. Refurbishment may be needed, in particular to toilets on White Horse Lane, not mentioned at all in consultation. No need for more or new buildings for these purposes. Waste of money. OK to provide cycle stands though those I see are largely unused.

No

Movement along pavements for the visually impaired is very problematic. While planters and public seating are welcome, these along with existing street furniture, cafe outdoor seating structures and

enclosures present difficult and dangerous navigational challenges. The existing arrangements and placements need thoughtful assessment and alterations made to enable inclusive use for all residents and visitors.

I also think there should be provision for young families and allow for them to enter and move around the town centre freely. The use of the car in areas of market street and St Johns square can be dangerous for children and adults as cars and pedestrians share the space without clearly defined zones.

My mum had an accident in her wheelchair because of a pothole on a crossing...sort out the crossings you already have and make sure they are safe before you spend money on new ones.

Accessibility must include blind/disabled people

Definitely support the addition of changing places facilities

Definitely need to improve toilet facilities in town especially to assist people with bowel conditions and to have better maintained toilets as we always go to Wetherspoons or wait until we get home

yes this is one of the strongest proposals

Please see my earlier comments about the need to include people with various disabilities at all the planning stages. I would be happy to take part.

As someone who regularly cycles to town, improved cycle stands and more of them would be welcome.

"These type of improvements should be given top priority as probably many can be achieved within the limited budget likely to be made available in the foreseeable future.

Plus they are likely to benefit more people and enhance the town for residents as well as visitors which is essential to keep the town alive."

We need more intown services

"Changing places facility will be really asset.

Secure, Lockable bike storage with capacity to charge electric bikes would be good. "

Accessibility improvement is vital in a town with a larger than average elderly population. And improvements to cycle stands / cycle safety is essential in an old town with narrow streets which make the provision of cycle lanes difficult or impossible.

As someone with limited mobility, improvements to disable access are very welcome.

the topography of Abergavenny will mean that cycling will never be a viable option for anyone who is not super fit.

having recently had a new hip and then a foot op, accessing cafes in town has been limited by lack of disabled toilets. accessible facilities are needed in all areas of town. I can't walk more than 2k steps at the minute, so can't get across town to disabled toilets.

Toilet facilities and changing facilities are already in place e.g. at the back of the market. However, I believe that these should be hygienic and clean at all times of which is not the case.

The town already has a number of these facilities however they are not being maintained effectively

"The pedestrian area in the town centre should not be a place for cyclists. There are several cycle stands in town that are rarely used. Drivers leave their cars in car parks, why can't cyclists do the same? If provide with good, secure facilities they would be encouraged to cycle to town. Providing more or larger stands in town would clutter the town and in reality unlikely to attract more cyclists.

Water filling stations can be in public toilets. But all cafes and pubs can provide water if needed. The cost of installing, maintaining and keeping frost protection is an unnecessary burden."

Demolish White Horse Lane facility to enable space to be used for something fit for 21st century.

Please don't call any of them a 'hub'.

Do not want cycles being ridden into town centre through pedestrian areas to bike stands, enough problems with bikes being ridden now and inconsiderable mobility scooter drivers.

Make sure the needs of non-binary and other gender-non-conforming individuals are met.

Quick Wins

Adopt a coordinated style of street furniture, eg. seats, benches, visitor information, etc

"More benches

toilets

changing rooms

Cycle racks

Water refills

Promoting town centre property improvement grants - potentially massively enhancing the overall look and atmosphere of the town centre

Signage and transport to and from station

Signage, accessibility

I didn't notice the quick wins. For me it would be to replace the old playground equipment in swan meadow and to target national shops like M&S to tempt them to Abergavenny

Signage from A456 and A40

Allow delivery access to all retailers at specific times of day, support the small businesses, encourage the younger generation to set up a business.

Accessibility audit and town centre property improvement grants

Signage and waymarking. Shuttle from train station

Improve signage

town centre property improvement plans - would enhance visual appeal of some properties that can look dilapidated.

No preference

The cross street junction would make a big difference followed by the access to the train station

Vacant plots - easy to deliver if Senedd would reduce Business Rates

Gabb Square and Safer Access routes

"Quick wins to be avoided. Temptation to go for quick wins. Bring all sectors together.

Improve access to better public toilets.

Not sure if this is easy to deliver but making it easier for people to cross the road the Angel corner.

Safer pedestrian area right through town

Why fix what is already working in the town just update what we already have.

"Signage from A40/465

Accessibility audit.

Town centre improvement grants."

Signage and tree planting

More social housing, improvements to shop fronts, paving to be fixed

A town for all, raised road around the angel corner, move the post office building.

All

" To address underused spaces at junctions on

the A40 such as Lower Cross Street/Monmouth

Road and Park Road."

Llanfoist Bridge

Access and signage

Changing places would be great. The lack of these makes us head home early! Accessibility survey is also critical before doing anything at all, surely.

The routes into Abergavenny. Improve the Post Office building and bring back the post office counter back there along with other services such as banking, etc etc. into the building.

None would meet the need. Roads are crumbling, rates are too high and we have far too many councillors trying to make a name for themselves

Improvements of vacant properties.

"Too much money spent on tech which never seems to work.

A quick walk through town reveals shops and houses that need mending.

The HSBC building has broken windows. The new barber in Market Street has a hideous sign. The vape shop next to Bannons is a disgrace."

"Improved signage

Improved pedestrian access"

Signage

Improve arrival point to town bus station with better landscaping, less concrete.

Any of them but critical is ongoing maintenance which is often lacking and keeping updates.

Pedestrian access

"Tudor street improvements if done well

Changing places toilet"

Improve town centre properties

Promote property improvement grants to town centre landlords

pedestrian crossings by the angel

Improvements around the entry routes and pedestrian routes from car parks, A40 issues (get back with Welsh Gov looking at re-routing), Bailey Park and routes from railway station

Encourage landlords in targetted properties to improve them.

Toilets

In my opinion there is an immediate need to entice bespoke shops to the town to take up the empty units. Abergavenny is a hive in the evenings but could do even better. Having unique stores available to visitors that can't buy certain items elsewhere would have a massively positive (and quick) effect on the town. Maybe look at rates/rents reductions initially to allow the businesses to secure their setting

Digital marketing might be a quick win as it doesn't involve physical change. Increased footfall from this might help shops etc in town centre and reduce empty space

Updates to Cross Street and better signage

Target vacant properties for improvement and supporting town centre organisations to work together on events etc. A visible community noticeboard.

"If everything is too co-ordinated in style it can look rather institutional

I like bi-lingual signs - please keep/extend - some of us do speak welsh."

Pedestrian access to town with more crossings especially by the Angel corner of A40

reduce street clutter and obstructions. loads of it everywhere. old signposts, commercial signs (A-boards) blocking footways, extension of cafe seating to a point where you can't easily walk around, let alone use a wheelchair or a bike.

Wider pavements/further pedestrianisation

"Vacant properties and improvements to town furniture

And pedestrian improvements "

Improve accessibility and pedestrian experience, from train station to town and throughout the town focusing on Cross street

Jet wash streets - particularly high street - clean up litter bins & cig bit butt bins . Encourage dog mess disposal. Resource planting volunteers to introduce more greenery into the town. Encourage shops owners to clean up their entrances and take a pride in the town - some do many don't.

Town centre organisations to work together to promote events. Having a proper centre for Afult Community Learning will be a key part of this.

Signage within the town and working together are top .

Gabb square development

Need to study this again.

All sounds too good to be true!

Slowing down vehicles on Tudor Street.

Community activism

Reduction of larger vehicles through town

Replacing and upgrading the toilets by cibi walk

Get rid of the cabins in Monk Street, Clean and tidy the town. More events in Market Hall - give reasons to go onto town each day

Identifying and promoting vacant properties

Filling empty shops

Safe access.

Putting more for the kids would invited alot more equipment in the park ie splash park would bring in so many more people and families to spend in the shops rather than driving though are town to get to these other towns that have thought about families rather than individuals.

Unsure

Events & vacant properties.

Roads and safety!

Zebra crossing at Monmouth road to castle meadows.

Target vacant properties by encouraging independents to open interesting shops

Improving green infrastructure within the town

Temporary urbanism in vacant shops

Better accessibility for people with mobility problems and also more toilets

Llanfoist bridge, renovation of vacant buildings

it isn't on there but improved signage at train station, bus station don't need it at Bailey park as you can open your eyes and see where to go.

"Improve links up Beili Lane

Promote town centre property improvement grans, signage and artworks on Bailey Park railings.

Focus on Gabb Square initial phase of works."

"Working together is the key.

Lowering business rates and rents would help new start ups. Maybe a ""pop up"" area for shops to try the town before they commit. Empty shops are becoming more obvious. We are lucky at the moment but things will change if nothing is done."

The smart tech proposals are gimmicky and probably a waste of money

Improved signposting to Heritage sites?

Improvements to the look of shop frontages and general face lift on pedestrian areas, Abergavenny has lost a lot of independents and it would help to rejuvenate

Water stations

It would depend on cost and what the community feel is best value for money. Please define quick wins, 1 year? 2-5 years? If you want a true community Co productive approach then you need to work better and closer with the community, it's groups, businesses and just people. I haven't seen the sort of engagement and I'm in town everyday.

Benefit to cost ratio should be considered ahead of speed of execution. Better to invest firstly in those proposals which will have the most significant and enduring impact - even if execution take longer. Like improved pedestrian environment, better access and facilities for cyclists, and enhancements to

appearance and diversity of stores in lower cross-street - which has largely just become a fast-food collection point.

Lower Cross Street and Park Street area a priority.

More greenery, signage for businesses to promote for free, working to fill vacant shops, cross street improvements.

Town centre property improvement grants

New toilets, pedestrian areas and filling maxibargains with a new shop. Shops like maxi bargains, Iceland, Poundland and B&M makes the town look cheap. More independent shops or shops like m&s.

Yes

Angel corner, and the a40 by Tesco both need improving as traffic density is increasing.

The area outside Shackleton's/ the old buttons, is tatty, full of confusing signage and a huge CCTV post. It could be a central focal point. What about a competition? To design a statue or fountain (clearing the current signage to more discreet / better locations)? Like fountain court in London, for example; a low fountain with Welsh stone benches surrounding it and trees?

Improving access, road development and town centre improvements

I think sustainability is more important than quick wins

"Better landscaping

Angel corner

Also can the council please get over itself and encourage some of the main players back into town so we don't have to go to Cwmbran for things like kids clothes, general clothing (current choice is market, high end or peacocks) we need more shops for families and not just coffee shops and those for older adults with no kids "

Improved signage, toilets, improve shop fronts.

Improve cycling infrastructure

No such thing as a quick fix, ask the NHS

I know the town council has won an award for its use of smart planting and it should be encouraged to do many more smart things with signs and information

Don't really have enough information to appraise the proposals in terms of 'quick wins'

Frogmore St & Gabb Sq development.

Town center organisations to work together on events

More greenery

Improving key gateways

More seating for people to stop and chat.

It shouldn't be about quick wins, strive for equality and equity first

Address the underused spaces

"Undertaken an accessibility audit across the town

Commission a feasibility study into a changing

places provision in the town centre.

centre."

The roads being improved

Na

An Accessibility Audit would be a priority for me. It's only when someone in your family suddenly needs a wheelchair that you realise how appalling the pavements and accessibility are in general in Abergavenny !

The least expensive wins are better.

More trees?

Some

Anything to improve access for people with disabilities.

Seats and benches

Signage on A465 and A40 and Bailey Park. Address underused spaces at junctions on A40. Promote property improvement grants

Technology

"Abergavenny has become a dog toilet and unregulated street parking.

The whole public streets areas are stinking and businesses and buildings and signage with dog urine."

Targeting vacant properties.

Cycle parking hands down

Underused spaces along A40 and other areas of council owned land. Accessibility audit could be useful, but I see many people with walkers managing ok. Review of existing signage. Traffic volume audit and speed audit at roads of interest (Tudor St, Pen Y Pound, Monmouth Rd, Brecon Rd, A40, Angel Corner) with review following.

"Promote town centre property improvement grants

to town centre landlords."

Not sure

"Undertaken an accessibility audit across the town centre, see 31 above.

"Installing sensitively designed signs at key locations to provide information, promote businesses, attractions and trails

Build on digital and smart technology to more efficiently manage and promote the town centre

Work to ensure pavements are for pedestrians, prams and wheelchair users and not for car drivers to park on.

In view of the limited budget available I would suggest choosing those options which enhance the experience of pedestrians in the town.

"Lucie Parkins idea to paint footprints on the roads / pavements to lead people through the town (including market and Lion Street where the cookery school is based) The footprints +/- green lines for bicycles would have several functions:

1. Reassuring pedestrians and cyclists that they really DO have the right to walk this way
2. Reminding drivers to share the roads safely (hopefully)
3. Leading visitors to explore new areas of town that aren't immediately obvious eg. The Courtyard / The Gaff, Lewis Lane, Broadleaf books..."

Target vacant properties

None of the quick wins really address the retail need Abergavenny is lacking

"Improving safe spaces for young people.

Addressing any vacant shops / premises. "

Reduce car parking charges would increase more visits to town

Enhancing the market hall

"landscaping.

Promotion and integration of key assets like the Borough and Melville - engage the rich local arts communities and businesses in this. This needs imagination and skill to develop - there is expertise locally if not in the Council that needs to be drawn on more"

"Promote town centre property improvement grants.

Tree planting and coordinated design signage."

"Better toilet provision, including a Changing Place toilet but also replacement toilets on White Horse Lane.

This would bring immediate improvement in basic facilities and attract more people to come to the Town Centre.

More street benches. Better town centre signage. Removal of the few obstacles to ease access for blind and people using mobility scooters.

Renewal and improvement of tactilling where required.

Rerouting the main cycle route away from the town centre.

Improving the crossing of Market and Lion Streets"

Improved access and tow centre facilities

Maybe a poll just on this would help - any improvements will be a win.

Improve vacant buildings

Disabled hub in Castle Street

Town centre property improvement grants for landlords. I support the Abergavenny Transition Town (ATT) proposal to greatly increase the provision of affordable flats/homes for the large number of low-paid employees in the town (e.g. hospitality and care employment).

"A coordinated style of street furniture and signs would meet immediate needs and be easy to deliver.

As for targeting vacant properties, Monmouthshire Council would do well to reconsider 2024 changes to business rate exemptions that forced the closure of a vibrant gallery concern that I was a member of.

Reconsideration of such rates would help more unique local businesses to survive - this is essential to enhancing the value and character of Abergavenny "

Improve bus link from railway station to town centre

Make town more pedestrianised and safer pavements and roads

Improved signage. The money for all the remaining projects would be better off being given to other towns that need it more

I don't know what the quick wins are. Maybe the coordinated furniture etc. Yet, coordinated benches and furniture were put in place a few years ago so I don't know how this could be better achieved and planters/plants a few weeks ago.

Town centre businesses need to be included in any decisions that are being put forward as these are the people who will be impacted the most

Improved toilets

Town Centre signage and linkages. Changing places toilet could be if suitable site is found. New smart tech gateway has better capacity to support footfall counters and sensors across town.

What are these quick wins?

Adopt a coordinated style of street furniture, eg. seats, benches, visitor information, etc

Signage

Widening pavements and removing on-street parking on lower-cross street would probably be the cheapest/easiest.

Missing

Tidy up bottom end of town from the bus station

Accessible signage

No clear strategy to tempt national shops into the town - I suspect a lot of work is needed to attract them given the age of the population especially during the week

You should at least make an attempt to stop large lorries driving through town if they are not stopping in town or add a weight limit to reduce the amount of large lorries

"After implementing any improvements to Abergavenny please don't forget that we also need more Police in the Town to prevent the New Development being destroyed, sadly Crime is up, and I wouldn't like to see Monmouthshire wasting money.

One thing that does concern me as a Walker, the Town needs an accessible Bridge across the River, it is very dangerous walking on the Bridge with the heavy traffic, Lorries, Buses, etc. Please look into this matter before someone gets killed. Pushing a pram across the Bridge in Llanfoist is very dangerous. Thank you for reading my comments.

Jacqueline Hart"

Local resident who live outside the centre are not serviced by regular bus services. Current services from Mardy run hourly and only until 5/6pm. this does not encourage less abled residents to visit the centre and make use of the social events & hospitality venues

The junction by the filling station on the A40 needs to be widened so it doesn't back up when someone is turning right

"Your proposals are going to be stretched by significant planned town population increase. MCC are unfair treating Abergavenny by loading town with extra housing and protecting Usk & Monmouth.

To make it the place people want to live - need better access to hospitals - where is the promised improved road to The Grange - Who is having the final say in that - MCC or Landowners with far more power and influence??"

Heritage buildings need to be kept in good order. These are much appreciated by residents and tourists. More open areas for wildlife and green spaces of interest.

Abergavenny is an outdoor town but from walking around you wouldn't think it. We have a few outdoor shops but nothing that makes up the fact we are surrounded by beautiful hills and walks. We should adopt signage, like they have in the Alps, that gently guides the way, from the town centre to some of these hills.

"Increased parking spaces at train station

More / improved public toilets "

Fabulous proposals that would make our fabulous town even greater.

Put the 30 mph back on the main trunk roads in Abergavenny

Please pedestrianise the town centre, pedestrianise Llanfoist bridge, bring B&Q, Lidl's and a proper size Tesco to the town. How about at the empty Turkey factory. Stop Pontrillas wood lorries cutting through town. Wider paths needed all along Hereford Road to the new houses at top of Mardy. A proper user friendly police station back in town centre. Police on the streets (on Saturday there was a

gang selling fags and tobacco in town but no one to report it to). Bring back 30mph on Hereford Rd. We need a proper post office.

Encouraging businesses other than cafes, bargain and charity shops e.g. Hardware, affordable clothing

"Parking charges need to be changed in town - something such as spend £10 in a shop and get your parking ticket validated, or first hour free,

QR codes on some of the historic buildings which leads to pictures of what it once looked like, of who lived there etc - we don't make enough of our history.

Some sort of well-being hub with treatment rooms available for practitioners to rent per hour if necessary, such as the one in Chepstow - <https://www.thewellbeing-centre.co.uk>

"Food festival needs to work more with local businesses.

Llanfoist Bridge, a safe walking route please

Most things are covered. You can't do all things at once

Not enough focus on teenagers, children and babies. As I said above, Swan Meadows is such a wasted opportunity. It could tick the box for bus station and train station visitors too. More could be made of Bailey Park too. It would be amazing to have more of a wooded play zone like Linda Vista. There's so much space to do more! It would become such an attraction.

Please make Abergavenny attractive to young families, young people and children. More good shops for them less charity shops.

Yes, lower business rates and encouraging business to town, this will drive up council tax and that is bad!

Not everyone is computer literate. Thank goodness we have Santander, Lloyds, Nat West to enable us to do our banking.

Please give consideration to traffic lights to control Angel Corner. Lights were in situ for 18 months and the restaurant in Monk Street went up in flames. Lights worked well, traffic flowed, pedestrians were able to cross Monk Street and Angel Corner.

"Please ensure that dropped kerbs and tactile paving is available

1. Outside shopmobility

2. Upper Cross Street

3. From Market Street to join up path with Morrisons

Pen Y Pund needs to be crossing to get to Brecon Road.

Car parks especially Brewery Yard need resurfacing and painting.

Please could something be done with taxis all parked outside Tesco though they are more needed at train station and bus station."

Managed contraction of town centre to create a more vibrant core. Encourage re use of vacant shops for residential purposes in peripheral areas. Consider town scheme to repair or re introduce historic/architectural details.

"Getting back to talking with the Welsh Government about re-routing the A40 which would help lessen some of the HGV traffic through the centre. Having seen the amount of pollution related dirt on the pillars at Abergavenny Baptist Church you can see what all the HGVs do add.

Pontrilas Sawmills had previously asked their lorries to go over the bridge on to the heads of the Valleys. But seem to now be coming in on Brecon Road and then up Hereford Road again.

It's more the roads by the Angel that on that bed the through traffic of HGVs doesn't really support it. "

"Not apparent, and I am sure consultation has been undertaken with teenage students and young adults, but it would be good to understand how they think about the town and what may keep them here? I suspect most leave and come back.

Understanding and potentially moving to change the demographic of the town including more feedback from people from ethnic minority backgrounds would be useful to understand if there is any. "

Toilets. Signs explaining heritage and history of town especially rural history as it's a rural town.

One of my main complaints is that the food festival especially, has become far less interesting for visitors, especially those who used to travel significant distance to attend. I have some thoughts to improve this which are a little too lengthy to explain here. You can contact me here paulboote1@gmail.com to discuss.

No specific ideas for young people. We need families in the town so we don't have an ageing population and the town can remain strong in the future.

Improving signage for visitors

"Bus service to and from station - urgently needed.

Bus service from Nevill Hall hospital to The Grange then to Rôya Gwent - most urgent need."

Better parking and a hoppla bus on periphery of town centre to help reduce traffic in the centre of the town.

"Old Post Office could be redesigned/repurposed as an art gallery/flats - so it draws people in and looks attractive and 21st century.

Previous Richards shop- space could be developed around quadrangle - small business and shops on ground floor/flats above with entrance to space in centre for garden with benches, trees etc."

Focus on tidying up the town rather than creating more things to look scruffier

something new and good for teenagers

Improved digital technology for the disabled

A lot of the proposals sound great but I would like to once again emphasise a need for any changes to be considerate of the town's character and look to maintain and enhance this and not try to make the town look modern / generic.

Abergavenny is a great town but it needs to constantly fight threat of decay - need to clean streets keep funding greenery - keep litter bins spotless and maintained - build a sense of care and consideration to keep the town's appearance and authenticity.

There is only brief mention of Adult Community Learning. This vital service has been drastically hit by the move away from its own building. Classes used to run from 9am to 9pm in 3 classrooms and a kitchen and garden. The building had level access, parking, and was accessible to all. Adult Community Learning is now restricted to just part time use of the library's Community Room and Mayor's Parlour. If given space, Community Learning can be a centre for learning, community cohesion and bringing diverse groups of people together. Adult Community Learning is funded by Welsh Government central funding and cost recovery courses. If a building was made available it could be a key part of bringing the town together and could participate in wider events in the town eg: arts, writing, food festival. It does more than just deliver education, employability and leisure classes: it can be a safe place to bring together everyone in the community, with a particular focus on people with disabilities.

Probably

"Sorting the dangerous and much used crossing point of the A40 where Lower Monk Street meets the A40 and allows pedestrians to then reach the town centre and Morrisons and use safely the contra flow cycle route up Lion street. Re-locate the pedestrian lights currently further down Monk St to this junction.

Reinstate the avenue of vandalised trees on Lion Street.

Sort the unpleasant clash of cars parking and pedestrians plus, in the future, more cyclists coming up from the Meadow at the parking site opposite the Tudorgate surgery. Re think locating the car parking currently in that confused area, onto Tudor street in lay-byes between the trees.

Explore more radical ways of possibly closing to vehicles the Castle end of Castle street and the section passing St Johns square by re-routing all cars into the Byefield lane car park entrance on Tudor Street and then connecting with a new road up to castle street car park. Close Lower Castle street to vehicles as well.

Execute an outline speculative design of how the whole ex-royal Mail and used BT site could be repurposed and opened up for more active uses retail/ hospitality and social rent housing, connecting the axis of Flannel Street directly to the Castle street car park, taking down the blue engineering brick wall, and taking a route across the current PO van yard.

Prioritising the provision of social rent housing at every opportunity in the town centre."

Improve Tourist Information services

Although the Angel corner pedestrian crossing has been mentioned, a real solution isn't achieved - even the ATT proposals admit it's a tricky one. Tackling re-routing of large HGVs is vital.

These proposals are largely about hard landscaping and not about place. I don't really see them driving improvements in Abergavenny as a place to live. I'd love to see proposals to tackle air pollution, traffic noise, and to boost community engagement and activism.

Ongoing Maintenance and clarity of Purpose in plans. What are spaces for? Also, the Gunter House development doesn't seem to be included - nor the new garden centre - re parking and pedestrian flow

White horse Lane

"The town centre doesn't need to be suitable for ""the youth"", they just need somewhere to go and some accessible activities that would interest them. Kids don't have money so aren't going to pop into town to hang out and even then they don't want to hang out where you tell them to, that's why they end up on park benches in Linda Vista or Bailey Park. They want places they can grow and explore the world, themselves and the interactions between them and the world, they don't need another ""youth centre"" unless you're going to actively and continually support opportunities and activities.

Supporting the youth of the area is about giving them opportunities and giving them access to knowledge and activities that'll help them. A space for different activities is great but without continuous support and funding creating ""space"" for them is short term solution "

"Protecting the residential streets within the town - for example:

resident only parking,

stopping rat runs - Baker Street & Merthyr Road

A one way Merthyr Road - a conservation area with more listed buildings than any other road in Abergavenny and yet traffic is funnelled down rather than using the A40 & newer link road to the river. Reduce traffic pollution in town!"

"One way system up mardy, in gwent road, out midway lane.

Use the market, river and castle for more events.

Variety of shops, no more coffee or charity.

Cobbled squares, vegetation all around."

Lack of consideration for the type of shops in town... too many coffee and charity shops.

Drastically improve playground near bus station

A quick win would be to provide more maintenance and cleaning of what is existing.

Please do not cover the town and parks with more signage. Money would be better spent on improvements to the town and Bailey Park.

Adapt the city center to climate change, make space for nature in the city, bike lanes !! Renovate the games next to the central bus station and Abergavenny signe

Better accessibility for disabled drivers in the town centre area

More and more people are becoming 'greener' and wanting a cruelty free/environmentally friendly lifestyle so the town should reflect that and grow with that

Yes. Please finish spending the active travel budget on Abergavenny and bring some active travel intervention to Chepstow. There is no active travel network here, minimal specific provisions for people on foot or on bikes. What do we have to do to get some attention for citizens down here?

something for the 0 - 18 years olds. A lot of the plans are not necessary

More emphasis on making the town public transport friendly, especially for cyclists and walkers, and people using the train station and buses.

Change parking fee back to 9-5pm

Improvements in Market Hall

Improved cycle ways. The current cycle paths through Castle Meadow are OK up to a point but the entrances and exits are poor (the one near the Llanfoist bridge is diabolical!). It's like the town is pretending to be cycle friendly but in practice saying to cyclist that it actually hates them.

We've long been promised a new cycle and pedestrian bridge, which is a much bigger priority than most of the stuff in this plan."

"Increase number of public toilets.

Free parking

Don't spoil the towns old market character.

"Get a M&S to come to Abergavenny

Incentivise return of independent shops

There needs to be more places for young people. They're hanging around outside shops in trolley bays, they're vandalising the town out of boredom. The potholes need to be fixed also.

"This is not an easy read. Therefore anyone over the average reading age would not be able to understand them. I suggest you are not being inclusive in your approach to engagement. The drop in times weren't accessible to most people and publicity about them meant that a lot of people missed them due to work etc. Your plans on a shop window are small and inaccessible for those people with sight impairment. Crossing the road at that point is challenging and so many choose not to. Not all older people can and use online information. I am concerned that you have not truly wanted to engage with the community on these proposals.

Regarding the proposals, they are principles and do not provide detail. This is a shame because I'm sure the town and it's people would like to hear more about it. "

"Rain gardens and other sustainable drainage provision given higher frequency of deluges and, potentially, areas of shelter

Consideration of biodiversity connections across the town

How the town responds to higher temperatures in summer, for example shading of streets / gathering areas

Recycling arising from deposit return schemes, and ensuring extended producer responsibility is statutory not voluntary and funds it"

Any policy on begging and homelessness? Provision of shelter etc, given that this is likely to be an increasing issue in the town in future...

Ditch all reference to Gabb square. Rename to celebrate someone / something local (don't assume Gabb is an equal pay or exemplary employer)

"Regarding your questions on living in Abergavenny (health/community etc) I have no idea but had to provide an answer, similarly cycling facilities. Most cycling is for exercise purposes not to visit town centres and spend money.

Monmouthshire has commissioned this survey and one on Usk town. How much did they spend on these fabulous presentations? How much of my council tax? In the case of Usk town, nothing happened/will happen. Both surveys include the recommendation that further survey work should be carried out - why?

The main problem with Abergavenny and Usk is that the Usk river bridges need improving/replacing, there is no stomach for this hence the surveys to recommend fiddling at the edges.

Some of the current street furniture has not been well laid out and blocks pedestrians. Outside Boots and on the corner by Shakletons for example.

Conscious on costs and how this impacts budgets.

"Feeling really sad that you think you are improving what was a beautiful market town, we be looking like every other town if 20% of this goes ahead. And where is the money coming from.

If you really want to improve things start with the basics, you want to be called a Market town start thinking at what a Market town should look like "

Targeting vacant units - this must be done with a view to health inequalities - we do not need more hot food takeaways or permissions granted to change use from retail space to takeaway outlet. Neither do we need vape shops or convenience stores targeting unhealthy products. We need destination spaces e.g. climbing centres, roller skating ring, trampolining, etc. AND more NHS dentists surgeries

You like Donald trump living in fairy land

Acknowledge and celebrate our historical heritage. Gunter mansion restoration - excellent but do something about the very special raised and colonaded shopping area in Market street. Built in c17 it is Grade 2 listed and the only one in Wales. There are other colonaded walks built for the well-to-do in their private grounds but as a shopping area it is unique and a treasure. We lost a large chunk of the towns Tudor area - don't let this go too.

No - I would like to see all the proposals implemented

The lack of taxis in the town centre is concerning. Once the trains have finished or if it is raining it is virtually impossible to get a taxi on weekends, which definitely discourages people from staying in the town for longer or choosing Abergavenny to go for nightly entertainment.

for heaven's sake don't go ahead with the ill thought out crackpot scheme to flood the town with hundreds of new houses on the greenfield hillside site on Little Skirrid!

Need all of the above sorting

No I've said already

Encouraging a M&S or Next to enhance the shopping experience

Abergavenny has an elderly population we need more benches everywhere

Just road and street improvements needed

This needs to be done in all areas not just the town centre Whitehorse lane is one example that needs major support and improvement it is a terrible lane always dirty the old toilets are disgusting

"If Active Travel widened pathways through Castle Meadows go ahead whilst improvements from the train station along the A40 are also made I, for one, will be livid! There is no need to spoil the meadows if alternative routes for cyclists are safely offered.

Abergavenny is a wonderful place to live and a really attractive town for visitors too, but please keep in mind those groups who are generally marginalised and provide for them too (14-18 year olds, disabled, trans people and those with less money)."

A trusted workforce of individuals to clean and maintain the town centre. Street sweepers armed with wheelbarrows, brushes and shovels. Recognition that the town is in the 21st Century and all facilities should be available seven days of every week. The town should be open for business early in mornings until later in evenings.

"No matter what is done .from experience with being carer.....since pedestrianisation and street closure

Clients have stay away as can't access...walk to places....."

also need to attend to the basics such as highways maintenance and pot holes on approach roads. Road by the entrance to Linda Vista Gardens is poor.

Focus more on public transport and linkages within the town and improve bus services-think about those that live outside of the town

Why not build on links between Abergavenny and Owain Glyndwr. A major historical figure who had a lot to do with the area, yet he's hardly mentioned anywhere.

Improving Leisure centre facilities . Providing safe lock ups for e bikes to attract cyclists using the canal to spend time in town centre cafes shops etc . Install secure visitor and tourists luggage storage ,so they spend more time in town after booking out of accommodation, or people en route to encourage them to spend the day here .

The proposals are wide ranging but the concern is that they create an imbalance between car users and pedestrians in a rural area. The town centre is largely pedestrian friendly and doesn't need as much change as proposed to give it a modern feel. More soft landscaping and a focus on site lines would create a better lived experience

Lion Street is neglected as a link between spaces in the town - really it should be largely pedestrianised (or shared space as at the junction with Morrisons entrance/ market street) (except for access) and the parking perhaps made specifically disabled friendly

Coordinated look at Council owned land to improve streetscape by tree planting. Lower Monk Street verge poorly thought out, trees removed and 2 odd trees planted, one has died. The Castle and Museum is not given much thought. Gunter Mansion/Belli Lane one for consideration longer term. Overall, the placemaking improvements to date have been good. Apart from restoring the Lido, not mentioned, the balance between vehicle and pedestrian movement needs attention only in key places, e.g. Pen Y Pound, also not mentioned. Abergavenny is a small but lively market town as is, for both residents and visitors. Part of the joy of discovering a place is just exploring it. Everything does

not have to be signposted in paving for tourists. Layers of public improvements over time are fine. Money should be spent judiciously.

No

To support the mixed commercial/residential use of the Town Centre, in order to create an inhabited Town Centre, offering a variety of types of accommodation and ensuring safer more inclusive community.

As I've previously mentioned the town centre as it currently stands is difficult to move through during inclement weather and with the unknown of climate change the town centre needs to be inviting and nice to visit and move through during wet weather, stormy etc and warm weather which it currently doesn't. The maintenance of existing infrastructure would be welcome as the proposals outline a number of new infrastructure enhancements by improving gateways to the town centre but if the town centre itself doesn't match the expectations its an opportunity lost. Abergavenny is a well liked and visited town and the footfall in the town centre needs to be retained.

See comments above re. Llanfoist Bridge, improved leisure facilities and working to reduce /divert amount of heavy traffic through town centre

Free parking like Cwmbran or not a free car park on a hill

"Extend the pedestrian friendly road surface from Monk Street up Market street to form a circuit around Shepherd's Ice cream, Little Green Refills and our Courtyard. With signage at Boots to direct visitors down Market Street. And paint the horrible brown shuttering / doors / guttering of the Market Hall exterior with something brighter and interesting.

Yes! Decent high-street shops for normal working class people! Clothes, shoes, greengrocer... Affordable entertainment (bowling, crazy golf)? Sort the pot-holes! No more cafes, expensive old-lady clothes shops, charity shops. Clean the town centre up, half of it is nice, half is filthy.

Also encourage more local businesses to town too many charity shops - close magic cottage at ild bank site complete eye sore and less coffee shops. Provide shops we actually want to buy in

Opportunities for leisure. The leisure centre needs to be improved

'[Developments should be anchored so that they meet strategic goals - 1. improvement of air quality on roads and in town 2. increase active travel potential 3. build on existing assets esp in arts and culture to enrich the lives and community engagement of local people and visitors as well as build more sustainable small businesses in the town.

"How about an all weather bus shelter/cafe/ information point at the bus station?

I still think the amount of traffic, particularly HGVs, passing through the town is the biggest problem.

"Improving toilet provision including Place Making toilet and renewed toilets along White Horse Lane suitable for disabled and people with pushchairs.

Improved junction of Market and Lion Street"

Keen the current cycle access is maintained especially in the town centre with signage to support this . Although not the town centre I am concerned that each new housing estate added to the edge of town seems to add traffic without providing active travel infrastructure- on the road from Llanfoist to

Llanellen for example this means you have to walk on the main road . Housing companies should be forced to put in the infrastructure before they build their houses (I've seen this happen in Germany) this can affect the active travel entry to the town and make walks unduly stressful

Sort out disabled parking, blue badge holders dumping cars is a real hazard and restricts access.

From an earlier improvement - the resurfacing of the Baker St / Frogmore St junction - the brickwork road surface must be renewed: currently it is fractured and attracts flood water on wet days.

"Need to link these proposals to an analysis of COMMUNITY FACILITIES in and beyond the centre (e.g. Abergavenny Community Centre) and to plans to ensure particularly that PEOPLE IN POVERTY OR ON LOW SALARIES working in and around the town have INEXPENSIVE LOCAL HOUSING, PLACES TO BE & TO KEEP WARM & TO JOIN IN ACTIVITIES (the multiple coffee bars are great but too costly for people struggling on benefits), ACCESS TO BANKING SERVICES and to SUPPORT SERVICES.

It is important to welcome visitors but don't forget the permanent residents

An increase to plans of greening parts of the town. More tree cover and planting will further enhance the town and of critical importance help reverse the trend of nature depletion that must be addressed

be mindful of the age and style of the "market" town and do sympathetic planning and provisions. keep as much independent provision as possible so that it retains the draw to day visitors from Cardiff, Hereford, Bristol, Swansea etc. if they come and it's all charity shops and bnm's, why will they come??? keep it market town y, with a variety of shops for all ages and pockets in town. make it as sustainable/green/low carbon as possible, but don't do every via technology, , not all residents have or want smartphones, we do need banks and basics, better range of clothes shops and shoe shops. I've done a lot more shopping on line since these types of facilities have closed - then I'm not in town as often having coffees!

I do not agree with proposals

"Lighting at Bailey park so walkers/runners can use later in evenings etc for walking etc.

Develop old post office "

Please remember that older people are not as digital and smart as young people. Still reply on older methods of promotion and marketing. I personally appear to miss out on quite a few events.

Mae hen adeilad y Swyddfa Bost yn warth - pwy allai fod wedi'i ganiatáu yn y lle cyntaf? Dylid ail gynllunio'r ardal yna yn llwyr.

Replant trees in areas such as Lion Street.

"Development of Tiverton Car Park and Horsington's yard. It is currently a hole in the town centre. It could become a whole row of mixed-use buildings, providing local jobs and housing, and connecting the high-street to Lion Street.

Transport into town needs to be thought of within the wider context, including Llanfoist, Govilon, Mardy, Underhill etc. A fully joined-up transport plan needs to be made, and needs to inform design of the town-centre's cycle lanes and pathways.

So much space in the town is devoted to parking. We need to seriously reconsider the best use of these spaces. A survey needs to be conducted of the number of car spaces in use each day, so we can determine whether we really need so many parking spaces.