

Public Consultation on The Heath Conservation Area Appraisal

In March 2007, the Council held an exhibition and Public Meeting to illustrate the work that had been carried out on The Heath Conservation Area Appraisal. The exhibition was held at Clair Hall, Haywards Heath from 15th to 30th March 2007. The public meeting was also held at Clair Hall on the evening of the 16th March and was very well attended.

The exhibition set out a detailed assessment of the different character areas of the conservation area, suggested a number of changes to the boundary and provided a list of ideas for enhancement. A questionnaire was made available at these events, seeking the views of the public on the proposals. The deadline for the receipt of comments was Friday 20th April 2007.

This document summarises the questionnaire comments received and sets out the Council response to these. Where possible suggestions made by the public have been included in the appraisal document.

Summary of Comments to Conservation Area Appraisal Questionnaire

Question 1 Do you agree with boundary changes?

Yes – 7 No – 14

Additional comments

Respondent	Comments	Officer response
Mrs S Murray	No's 26 and 28 Sydney Road should be retained in the conservation area. These are 1920's houses with character and they could be redeveloped if taken out.	Agree. Following consultation with residents and relevant organisations it is not intended to remove these properties from the conservation area, as they are 1920's properties of similar scale and form to the others on the south side of Sydney Road, set in mature attractive gardens and are not obtrusive in the street scene. If they are removed from the conservation area there could be pressure to redevelop these properties to the detriment of the conservation area. The boundary will not be amended to exclude 26 and 28 Sydney Road.
Mr C Manton	The north side of Sydney road should be included. There are some fine buildings, 23 and 25 are 1870's, large bay windows, decorative brickwork, 19 and 21 built around 1840's with fine balconies and bargeboards. St Richards Church should also be included.	Agree. It is proposed that the conservation area should be extended to include St Richards Church, which is Grade II listed, and nos 19, 21 and 23 Sydney Road. These houses are some of the oldest on Sydney Road and indeed in Haywards Heath. They appear on the 1879 R. E. Ordnance Survey Map of the town engraved by E May.
Mrs L Walker	Retain existing boundary and also include the area at the rear of Oathall Road called Greenways.	Following consultation with residents and relevant organisations it is not intended to remove any areas from the conservation area. Regarding including the area called Greenways, it is considered that this area is not of the same general character as The Heath Conservation Area and would not be suitable for inclusion in this conservation area. However it is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation area is very important and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section in the appraisal document on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the

		proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr O Lund	The conservation area should be kept as intact as possible as changes could set a precedent for changes in the future to enable development.	Agree. Following consultation with residents and relevant organisations it is not intended to remove any areas from the conservation area.
Mr B Phelan	Greenways should be included and the setting of the conservation area considered as this can affect the character.	It is considered that the area to the rear of Oathall Road, adjoining the conservation area, called Greenways is not of similar character to The Heath Conservation Area and would not be suitable for inclusion in this conservation area. However it is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation area is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section in the appraisal document on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area, consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr B Girvan	Agree with the proposed inclusion of the magnificent Turner House in Sydney Road. The semis in Sydney Road and the flats on the corner of Oathall and Heath Roads should not be removed. The flats have important space about them with specimen trees.	Agree. Following consultation with residents and relevant organisations it is not intended to remove any areas from the conservation area. It is proposed that the Turner property (no 16 Sydney Road) will be included in the conservation area.
Miss B Wood	The north side of Sydney Road should be included. Disagree with the removal of properties in Sydney Road and the corner of Oathall and Heath Roads as this could lead to unwelcome piecemeal development.	The general character of the north side of Sydney Road was not considered to be of the same character as the south side of Sydney Road, when the conservation area was designated in 1989. It originally contained some warehouse buildings and bungalows some of which have now been redeveloped recently. It is recognised that the western end does contain some older character properties including St Richards Church and it is proposed to include these properties within the conservation area. (See above.)
Mrs P Hendey	The area will be more easily managed with rounded boundaries. I agree with the additions.	Noted.

Mr S Trott	Consideration should be given to linking Oathall Road with Lindfield Common/ High Street via West Common to create a narrow strip or corridor conservation area that links the two main areas. Also consider including St Paul's on the Green or at least the Lodge House.	Lindfield Common and Lindfield High Street are included in the Lindfield Conservation Area. It would not be appropriate to link these areas to The Heath Conservation Areas, as they are very different in character. It is not good practice to designate large swathes of the built environment as conservation areas as this would weaken the conservation area designation as a whole. West Common is different character to The Heath Conservation Area and is not considered suitable for inclusion in this conservation area. The Lodge House on Oathall Road is already included in the conservation area.
Mrs C Hewitt	The Victorian houses on the north side of Sydney Road should be protected. It's all very well to have one side looking nice but what about the effect of neglecting the other side?	The general character of the north side of Sydney Road was not considered to be of the same character as the south side of Sydney Road when the conservation area was designated in 1989. It originally contained some warehouse buildings and bungalows and some of these have now been redeveloped recently. It is recognised that the western end does contain some older character properties including St Richards Church and it is proposed to include these properties within the conservation area. (See above.) However it is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr R Hendry	There is no need to reduce the conservation area. The flats at the corner of Oathall and Heath Roads can be upgraded and the surrounds replanted. Farlington Close should be included.	Noted. It is considered that Farlington Close is different in character to the majority of The Heath Conservation Area and is not considered suitable for inclusion.
63 Oathall Road	The two houses in Sydney Road should not be excluded as they act as a buffer. The buildings designed by Harold Turner should be added.	Agree. (See Above). The boundary will be amended to include 16 Sydney Road but not to excluded nos 26 and 28 Sydney Road
Dr D Jenkins	To exclude areas would give victory to the developers who continually chip away at existing conservation area policies. The Turner houses in Greenways have a specific	It is considered that the area to the rear of Oathall Road, adjoining the conservation area, called

	Architectural interest in Haywards Heath.	Greenways is not of similar character to The Heath Conservation Area and would not be suitable for inclusion in this conservation area. However it is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation area is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section in the appraisal document on enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr DeBaerdemaecher	Arbour Court should remain as although modern, the building and its lawns make a pleasant start to the conservation area. It could be enhanced with evergreen shrubs.	Agree. Following consultation with residents and relevant organisations it is not intended to remove this area from the conservation area. It is considered that the open aspect of the development and specimen trees contribute to the character of the conservation area.
Mr I Hewitt	The boundary should remain the same as once you remove small areas it is not long before you cherry pick other areas to be excluded.	Noted.
Mr D Saunders	Consideration should be given to including parts of the north side of Sydney Road to give a more balanced environment to this road and to provide a clear northern edge to the conservation area.	Agree. See comments above on including the northwestern side of Sydney Road in the conservation area.
Mr A Burstow	I agree with the inclusion of the Turner property on Sydney Road but not with the exclusion of the other two areas, as this will encourage development and encroachment.	Agree. See comments above on including 16 Sydney Road but not excluding nos 26 and 28 Sydney Road as these are 1920's properties of similar scale and form to the others, set in mature attractive gardens and are not obtrusive in the street scene. If they are removed from the conservation area there could be pressure to redevelop these properties to the detriment of the conservation area.
R ElHeri	The other side of Sydney Road should be included.	The general character of the north side of Sydney Road was not considered to be of the same character as the south side of Sydney Road when the conservation area was designated in 1989. It originally contained some warehouse buildings and bungalows and some of these have been recently redeveloped. It is recognised that the western end does contain some older character properties including St Richards Church and it is

		proposed to include these properties within the conservation area. (See above.) However it is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
R Walker	No existing areas should be excluded as for example the flats on the corner of Oathall and Heath Roads have worthy trees.	Agree. Following consultation with residents and relevant organisations it is not intended to remove this area from the conservation area. It is considered that the open aspect of the development and specimen trees contribute to the character of the conservation area.
Miss E Sims	Summerhill Lane, West Common and Oathall Avenue should be included.	Whilst these areas are attractive in their own right and may warrant designation as a conservation area, they are not considered to be of the same overall character as that of The Heath Conservation Area which is centred on the heath and therefore they should not be included in this conservation area.

Question 2 what are the special features of the Conservation Area that contribute to its character and appearance?

Respondent	Comments	Officer response
Mr C Manton	Local building traditions, high quality brickwork and many examples of superior building design lacking in modern equivalents. Distinctive trees and hedges give the area considerable character. No 16 Sydney Road has traditional tiling to front elevation.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
Mrs L Walker	Victorian buildings, large gardens, trees.	Agree. These features will be identified in the appraisal.
Mr O Lund	High precedence of families in an otherwise commercial part of the town, parks, playgrounds, greenery etc.	Noted. The appraisal document will include a statement about the occupation of many of the properties by families which contributes to the character of the area. The park, playground and greenery will be identified in the document as important features.
Mr B Phelan	Secluded rear gardens except these are being destroyed e.g. 60 Oathall Road. The setting is also important and development should be controlled adjoining the conservation area.	Noted. The development pressure on the large gardens will be recognised in the appraisal document in the section on Problems and Opportunities, and that this threatens to undermine the character of the

		conservation area.
Mr B Girvan	Eclectic mix of fine housing details, space, hidden surprises, trees and access to flora and fauna so close to a busy town centre.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
Miss B Wood	The mixture of green vistas, Edwardian/ Victorian buildings, historical value.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
Mrs P Hendey	The trees in Oathall Road, Clair Park in all its aspects. Clair Hall must be kept, as it is one of the town's biggest assets and in use all the time.	The appraisal will explain that the Town Centre Masterplan proposes the redevelopment of Clair Hall on the western edge of the conservation area. However the appraisal will state that any new building should be of a high standard of design with an active edge with Clair Park to overlook the park to reduce crime and vandalism.
Mr and Mrs Trott	Victorian buildings, tall trees, wide pavements, open spaces, and multi use of Clair Park for cricket, dog walkers, commuters and families and the central location of the conservation area.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal. However the importance of this area for families will also be reflected in the document.
Mrs C Hewitt	The red brick Victorian and white mortared houses, the trees and the backdrop of the park which gives the feeling of being in the countryside. Unfortunately the new development at Oathall Road can be seen from the rear of my property.	Noted. The effect of development in rear gardens on views from the wider area, particularly on views from Clair Park will be referred to in the appraisal document.
Mr R Hendey	The good housing in Oathall, Sydney and Heath Roads. Oathall Road has many trees throughout; these must be retained and maintained. Clair Park is pleasant. Clair Hall needs updating, not demolishing.	Noted. The appraisal will explain that the Town Centre Masterplan proposes the redevelopment of Clair Hall on the western edge of the conservation area. However the document will state that any new building should be of a high standard of design with an active edge with Clair Park to overlook the park to reduce crime and vandalism.
Dr D Jenkins	An architect pointing out items of merit, development of a heritage trail, consider local listing of buildings of merit, form guidance about enhancement of buildings in the future that meet climate change directives.	The appraisal document will identify important details and features in the conservation area and on individual buildings. The establishment of a heritage trail for this area and for Haywards Heath as a whole would be worthy aim. It is agreed that the identification of important buildings in the appraisal document could form the basis for a Local List of buildings of architectural and historic interest. The Council has prepared a supplementary planning document on Sustainable Building Construction techniques that address climate change issues.
Mrs I Dolder	The old, large houses, trees and hedges, the sloping lawns and huge trees on the corner of	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that

	Heath and Oathall Roads. Oat Hall at the bottom of Oathall Road	will be drawn in the appraisal.
Mrs M Tilbury	Building traditions and materials used in most of the existing properties. It is essential to retain the open spaces and landscaping in the area.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
Mr I Hewitt	There is a mixture of family houses on good plots. If these are lost and replaced by flats there is nowhere for people to move up the property ladder.	Noted. However the importance of this area for families will be reflected in the document.
Mr D Saunders	Mature gardens and the wild heath area.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
Mr A Burstow	The Heath itself, Victorian Villas, tree lined nature of Oathall Road.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
R ElHeri	All of the conservation area is of value.	Noted.
R Walker	The wealth of trees, shrubs and hedgerows, houses of interesting character, but not obtrusive from the road. Good views out, especially from Clair Park.	Noted. These comments support the conclusions that will be drawn in the appraisal.
Miss E Sims	The variety of trees. Scrub area of bracken should be left to maintain the heath appearance.	Noted. It will be suggested in the appraisal document that the wooded heath area of the recreation ground should be enhanced by the preparation of a management plan prepared to encourage wildlife and public access. A local conservation group could be established as has been done elsewhere in Mid Sussex.

Question 3 Is there anything causing harm to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area?

Respondent	Comments	Officer response
Mrs S Murray	Unsympathetic redevelopments opposite the conservation area in Sydney Road has had a detrimental effect.	It is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr C Manton	The tendency to replace old wooden windows with UPVC and to destroy other details such as exterior doors, gardens replaced with car parking and general untidiness e.g. bins.	Agree. The section of the appraisal document on Ideas for Enhancement will seek to resist the removal of historic features, important details and the loss of front gardens and the document recognises that the appearance of parts the conservation area should be improved.
Mrs L Walker	Flats being built, development of back gardens, creeping development that is changing the area is causing harm to the conservation area.	The section of the appraisal document on Problems and Opportunities identifies threats to the conservation area

		which could undermine its character and proposes a number of ways that these might be addressed.
Mr O Lund	The combination of development which is uniform in style providing small flats will fundamentally change the make-up of the area.	It is noted that the variety of development is important to provide a range of dwellings and a mixed community.
Mr B Phelan	Not considering the effects of development in adjoining areas to the conservation area such as Greenways. Planning officers should be educated on the value of the conservation area and its surroundings.	It is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation area is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr B Girvan	Erosion of space, light and views at the edges of the conservation area.	It is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Miss B Wood	Destruction of existing Victorian buildings through conversion to flats, loss of green spaces/gardens. The north side of Sydney Road is being ruined with new flat developments and the character of the road will be harmed and there may be possible pressure for this form of development on the south side. The conservation area boundary should include the north side of Sydney Road. Fauna and flora surveys of the heath. There is a need to retain a mix of dwelling types to provide sustainable communities.	Noted. See comments above on these issues. It is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mrs P Hendey	The traffic in Oathall Road is causing harm. The speed limit of 30mph should be rigorously enforced. The redevelopment of large gardens should be prevented.	Noted. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement traffic management proposals will be suggested.
Mr Simon Trott	There is poor/low quality street furniture such as benches and street lamps that are not heritage style, the children's play equipment in the park is old, and litter collection is infrequent. There is a need for more visible/ frequent policing as there is vandalism to fences and general graffiti damage.	Noted. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement it is proposed that the quality of the street lighting and street furniture should be improved. The issue of litter collection and the problem of vandalism

		will be mentioned to the Council's Estate Management section to seek ways to address these problems through improvements in litter collection and more visible surveillance or policing and partnership working.
Mrs C Hewitt	Buildings can be in poor repair, lawns not mown, hedges untrimmed, windows not painted and front gardens used for storing old cars makes the area unsightly. The new development on the north side of Sydney Road is causing harm.	The appraisal document will recognise that parts of Sydney Road have an unkempt appearance and it will seek to address this in the section on Ideas for Enhancement. The importance of the setting of the conservation area will also be recognised in this section.
Mr R Hendey	Traffic through Oathall Road has reached major levels with large lorries passing through. Lorries over 10 tons should be banned and the 30mph speed limit enforced. Road surfaces should be upgraded to European standards for residential roads in tons to reduce noise levels. More frequent road clearing and verge tidying would be welcome too.	Noted. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement, traffic management proposals will be suggested.
Dr D Jenkins	The exhibition should be the beginning of clear guidance about conservation areas. What is needed is a passion about conservation areas and their buildings including flora and fauna. At present these areas are under extreme pressure from developers.	Agree. It is hoped that the appraisal will provide clear guidance on what is special about this conservation area and how it can be preserved and enhanced. The document will recognise that this conservation area is experiencing severe pressure for development and will seek to identify ways to allow limited development that would not harm the character of the area.
Mrs I D Dolder	The long straight Oathall Road with overhanging trees is beautiful. Harm can be prevented by not allowing any more houses to be demolished. Sheds and portable garages however temporary do not enhance the conservation area when positioned in front gardens.	Agree. The appraisal document will state that incompatible garden sheds and garages especially in front gardens should be resisted.
Mrs M Tilbury	Recently a house and garden was redeveloped for flats in the conservation area. There is concern that new development on the site of Clair Hall which would ruin the surrounding area.	Noted. The appraisal document will identify that the Town Centre Masterplan proposes the redevelopment of Clair Hall on the western edge of the conservation area. However the document will also state that any new building should be of a high standard of design with an active edge with Clair Park to overlook the park to reduce crime and vandalism.
Mr I Hewitt	Demolishing houses in the conservation area to build flats is causing harm to the conservation area.	Noted. The appraisal document in the section on Problems and Opportunities will identify threats to the conservation area which could undermine its character and will propose a number of ways that these might be addressed.
Mr D Saunders	Pressure to develop mature gardens is causing harm. Development which is allowed should provide a balanced range of dwellings and should be in sympathy with the area.	The appraisal document in the section on Problems and Opportunities will identify threats to the conservation area which could undermine its character and will propose a number of ways that these might be

		addressed. It will also be recognised that there a large number of family dwellings in the conservation area and that it is important to provide a range of dwellings for a balanced mixed community.
Mr A Burstow	The traffic on Oathall Road is too fast, pavements are too narrow. Oathall Road would benefit from sensible speed limits, but not speed humps.	Noted. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement traffic management proposals will be suggested.
R Walker	Houses 11-17 Oathall Road are continually being extended/ modified or threatened. If this is allowed it would dramatically alter this part of Oathall Road. At the rear of nos 28A & B and 30 Oathall Road there still exists the original garden walls dividing the gardens and believed to be 110 years old. These are an unique feature in Haywards Heath and vital to the character of the conservation area.	Agree. These beautiful Victorian villas are key features with very attractive detailing and give this part of the conservation area its distinctive character. The original garden wall will be mentioned in the appraisal document as an important feature and it is noted that there are other old walls that are still in place that back on to the recreation ground e.g. the walling that exists along the rear of the properties in Heath Road.
Miss E Sims	The hedges backing onto the Heath should be maintained and enhanced. If the Clair Hall site is redeveloped any future building should not be too high and bulky in appearance nor impose on the general view from the recreation ground.	Agree. This hedging contributes to the character of this part of the conservation area. The document in relation to Clair Hall will state that any new building should be of a high standard of design with an active edge with Clair Park to overlook the park to reduce crime and vandalism.

Question 4 Do you agree with Ideas for enhancement?

Yes –17 No – 0

Respondent	Comments	Officer response
Mr C Manton	If a semi-detached house is thoughtlessly altered it detracts from the adjoining semi even if that property is well preserved.	Noted. The appraisal document will seek to prevent unsympathetic alterations in the conservation area.
Mr S Trott	Agree with the enhancements provided it results in positive proactive action.	Noted.
Mrs C Hewitt	Encouragement through incentives should be given to foster a shared responsibility for the maintenance of the appearance of the area.	Agree. An important outcome of this appraisal document will be to encourage both residents and the District Council to take action to improve the appearance of the area and to recognise what features need to be preserved and enhanced to protect its character.
Dr D Jenkins	It is important to develop this. It gives respect and passion for conservation areas and identifies the gems that exist in the town.	Agree. An important outcome of this appraisal document will be to encourage both residents and the District Council to take action to improve the appearance of the area and to recognise that this is a special and important area in the historical development of Haywards Heath.

Question 5 Do You have any additional ideas for enhancement?

Respondent	Comments	Officer response
Mr C Manton	Signage could be provided to identify the fragment of the original heath or information on the role of Sydney Road as the rural link between the station and Lindfield in the 1840's.	Noted. The establishment of a heritage trail and relevant signage for this area and for Haywards Heath as a whole could be developed in collaboration with the Town Council, the Museum Trust and the Haywards Heath Society.
Mrs L Walker	More trees should be planted.	Noted.
Mr O Lund	The addition of a heritage trail.	Noted. The establishment of a heritage trail and relevant signage for this area and for Haywards Heath as a whole would be worthy aim. This could be developed in collaboration with the Town Council, the Museum Trust and the Haywards Heath Society.
Mr B Girvan	Providing advice on Harold Turner houses from local sources, keeping a list of Turner plans, typical details of the properties and suppliers of quality materials.	An exhibition on Harold Turner's work prepared by the Council took place a few years ago. A leaflet was prepared to accompany this which identifies ways to preserve and enhance Turner properties.
Mrs P Hendey	The front gardens of the block of flats on the corner of Oathall and Heath Roads would be less stark if trees and shrubs were planted around it.	Noted. It is considered that the open aspect of this site allows views down Oathall Road and along Heath Road and highlights the specimen trees on the Oathall Road frontage. It is agreed that some planting close to Arbour Court would screen the building.
Mr S Trott	Differentiate between the conservation area and the rest of the town by providing high quality street furniture and pavements. The park should be made accessible for all in the community. The cricket pavilion could be used as a cafe when not in use for cricket matches or events as is the case at Southover, Lewes.	Noted. The area could be enhanced by providing better quality street furniture. The suggestion of the use of the cricket pavilion as a café or for events will be suggested to the cricket club and the Council's Leisure Department and would encourage greater use of this park area.
Mrs C Hewitt	Re routing overhead utility cables, traffic calming, more litter bins, nature trail and identification of species and community events such as blackberry picking sessions.	Agree. The existence of unsightly cables will be recognised in the appraisal. The need for more litter bins and more regular litter collections will also be identified in the document. The section of the Council responsible for street cleaning will be notified of this. The idea of a nature trail and community events could be linked with the suggestion in the appraisal document that the wooded heath area of the recreation ground should be enhanced by the preparation of a management plan to encourage wildlife and public access. A local conservation group could be established as has been done elsewhere in Mid Sussex.

Mr R Hende	Improve road surfaces, enforce speed limit, and ban lorry traffic. Give more attention to the maintenance of Clair Park. The permanent practice nets should be near the pavilion.	Noted. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement traffic management proposals will be suggested. However planning permission has been granted for the cricket practice nets at the northern end of the cricket field as there was nowhere suitable near the pavilion.
Dr D Jenkins	Can anything be done about the extensive white finish on 61 Oathall Road which makes it not in keeping with the rest of the houses?	This white finish will be mentioned in the appraisal document as not in keeping with the adjoining semi detached house which may encourage the owner to remove it.
Mr D Saunders	Better management of the heath area.	Noted. It will be suggested in the appraisal document that the wooded heath area of the recreation ground should be enhanced by the preparation of a management plan to encourage wildlife and public access. A local conservation group could be established as has been done elsewhere in Mid Sussex.
Mr A Burstow	Slow down traffic in Oathall Road and provide wider pavements but not through the usual traffic calming measures. Any building to replace Clair Hall should face onto Clair Park and be able to host open air concerts and events.	Noted. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement, traffic management proposals will be suggested. The appraisal document will identify that the Town Centre Masterplan proposes the redevelopment of Clair Hall on the western edge of the conservation area. However the document will state that any new building should be of a high standard of design with an active edge with Clair Park to overlook the park to reduce crime and vandalism.
R ElHeri	Proper restrictions of alterations to houses and gardens. Need for proper residents parking along Sydney Road.	Noted. . An important outcome of this appraisal document will be to encourage both residents and the District Council to take action to improve the appearance of the area The appraisal document will mention that consideration needs to be given to improving on-street parking for residents in Sydney Road otherwise there could be pressure for residents to convert gardens to parking to the detriment of the character of the conservation area.
R Walker	A simple explanatory plaque or sign explaining the historical importance of Sydney Road and possible markers to delineate the conservation area boundaries.	Noted. The establishment of a heritage trail and relevant signage for this area and for other historic areas in Haywards Heath as a whole could be developed in collaboration with the Town Council and the Haywards Heath Society.

Question 6 Any other comments?

Respondent	Comments	Officer response
Mr C Manton	The north side of Sydney Road contains some fine buildings including nos 23 –25, 1870's building with large bay windows, decorative brickwork, nos 19 –21 1840's attractive balcony and bargeboards and St Richards Church.	Agree. See comments relating to Question 1 on the proposed inclusion of this part of Sydney Road within the conservation area.
Mrs L Walker	Encourage residents to restore buildings and gardens and provide guidance.	Agree. An important outcome of this appraisal document will be to encourage both residents and the District Council to take action to improve the appearance of the area and to recognise what features need to be preserved and enhanced to protect its character.
Mr O Lund	Thank you for your work in preserving and enhancing the conservation area.	Noted.
Mr B Girvan	Guidance on appropriate design and materials when making changes to buildings in the conservation area.	It is the intention of the Council, once a number of appraisals have been carried out, to prepare supplementary planning guidance on design in conservation areas.
Mrs P Hendey	Retain the pedestrian crossing on Oathall Road which is heavily used.	Noted.
Mrs C Hewitt	I enjoyed using the park when my children were young. Good maintenance of the children's play area is needed and good lighting so that it can be used by all ages. The development of flats all along the north side of Sydney Road will cause parking problems which will lead to further gardens being converted to parking. The cars drive too fast along Sydney Road.	The importance of the recreation ground will be recognised in the appraisal document and the need for improved lighting in some areas without harming the overall natural character. The appraisal document will mention that consideration needs to be given to improving on street parking for residents in Sydney Road otherwise there could be pressure for residents to convert gardens to parking to the detriment of the character of the conservation area. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement traffic management proposals will be suggested.
Mr R Hendey	Surrounding areas to The Heath Conservation Area need to be looked at also. If the Broadway is pedestrianised this would increase noise and pollution along Heath, Church and Oathall Roads.	Noted. There are however no proposals to pedestrianise the Broadway in the Town Centre Masterplan.
Mr D Jenkins	Careful consideration should be given to the redevelopment of Clair Hall. Too tall a building will block the sun and give a sense of enclosure.	Agree. The appraisal document will identify that the Town Centre Masterplan proposes the redevelopment of Clair Hall on the western edge of the conservation area. However the document will state that any new building should be of a high standard of design with an active edge with Clair Park to overlook the park to reduce crime and vandalism.

Mrs M Tilbury	It is disappointing to see the redevelopment of properties close to the boundary of the conservation area. The north side of Sydney Road has resulted in much concrete and nothing in the way of trees to enhance the appearance of the road.	Noted. It is recognised that the protection of the setting of the conservation is a very important consideration and this will be reflected in the appraisal document. In the section on Ideas for Enhancement, it will clearly say that when considering proposals for development adjoining the conservation area consideration must be given to the effect of the proposals on the setting of the conservation area and on character and appearance of the conservation area itself.
Mr I Hewitt	There should be more lighting in Clair Park along the footpaths.	Noted. The appraisal will recognise that the recreation ground can be prone to vandalism and it mentions that it can be unsafe at night. In the section of the document on Ideas for Enhancement it will mention there is a need for improved lighting along some of the paths but this should be designed so as not to harm the overall natural character of this area.
Mr D Saunders	The wild area of the needs better management with brambles and vermin spreading. Trees are felled and branches not cleared away. Felled branches have been piled up against my hedge.	Noted. It has been suggested in the appraisal document that the wooded heath area of the recreation ground should be enhanced by the preparation of a management plan prepared to encourage wildlife and public access. A local conservation group could be established as has been done elsewhere in Mid Sussex.
Mr A Burstow	The appraisal is a useful exercise otherwise step by step the area will be developed	Noted.
R ElHeri	Whilst I enjoyed the appraisal public meeting and exhibitio , it is considered that it will be all talk without constructive ideas for preserving the area. The Council needs to stop all development in the conservation area.	Noted. The ideas for enhancement will form the basis for future action and some of the ideas will depend on additional funding being made available. The appraisal document will highlight what needs to be done in the area and resources can then be targeted to these areas.
R Walker	A register of significant tree and hedgerows with a location map should be made available at the Town Hall and Clair Hall.	Noted. All trees in the conservation area are protected by conservation area legislation. It will be suggested in the appraisal document that the wooded heath area of the recreation ground should be enhanced by the preparation of a management plan prepared to encourage wildlife and public access. Important trees could be highlighted on this plan. A local nature conservation group could be established, as has been done elsewhere in Mid Sussex, identifying important trees could be part of this group's work.