

What is the Market Place for? Consultation Summary

Q1 – What do you use the market place for:

- Shopping, Catching the bus, socialising
- Shops, Café, restaurants, everything!
- Parking, shopping, social events
- Short term parking, walking/shopping
- Shopping, getting the bus, meeting the coffee
- Short stay parking to be able to shop in the area
- Parking, shopping
- Walking, shopping, chatting
- Shopping
- Shopping & buses
- Shopping, catching a bus
- Parking for chemist, co-op etc
- Shopping, visiting Town Hall Events
- Coming to market, charity shops, church, shops, socialising
- Sometimes to park
- Shops, market, walk into Town daily
- Shopping, catching the bus
- Visit shops, restaurants, meet friends
- Catching bus and parking to access shops
- Parking, shopping, attending market, café
- Shopping, walking through, bus stops
- Monday Market, monthly market, parking
- Walking through to shops/bars, social events and catching the bus
- Car park and shopping
- Visiting local businesses and parking
- Local shopping, leisure (pubs/walks/coffee)
- Shopping and access to Town Hall for events and work
- Shopping and drinking
- Work and play
- Visiting markets, shopping, occasional parking
- Market and access to Town centre shops for “short stay” shopping
- Catching the bus (but can go to the other stops), walking, shopping, market, trying to walk through it without getting knocked down!
- Shopping, eating, volunteering
- Shopping, socialising, eating and drinking
- Shopping, entertainment, leisure
- Meeting friends, shopping, information (such as this event), meeting family
- Catching the bus, using shops, library, church access

- Mainly catching buses
- Shopping on market day, catching the bus, parking my bike, events
- Shopping, walking though (en-route), visit town hall, markets, occasionally catching the bus)
- Short-term shopping, community events, socialising, the chartered markets.

Q2 – Residency

68 people who responded were Aylsham residents

3 people who responded were business owners

1 people who responded were employees

8 people who responded were residents of the local area

Q3 – Ranking the Market Place uses in terms of importance:

- a) Somewhere to walk and shop/visit café
 - i) 47 people ranked this number 1 (highest)
 - ii) 18 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 8 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 2 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 0 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 0 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 0 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)
- b) Somewhere to park the car and shop / visit café
 - i) 15 people ranked this number 1 (highest)
 - ii) 5 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 11 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 4 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 5 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 5 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 21 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)
- c) Somewhere to catch a bus
 - i) 23 people ranked this number 1 (highest)
 - ii) 14 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 9 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 10 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 4 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 1 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 5 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)
- d) Somewhere to sit on a nice day
 - i) 6 people ranked this number 1 (highest)

- ii) 10 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 7 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 9 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 8 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 14 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 7 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)
- e) Somewhere to meet friends
- i) 11 people ranked this number 1 (highest)
 - ii) 13 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 6 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 9 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 17 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 4 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 4 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)
- f) Somewhere to park the bike and shop/visit café
- i) 10 people ranked this number 1 (highest)
 - ii) 4 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 6 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 4 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 8 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 9 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 14 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)
- g) Somewhere to shop at the market
- i) 23 people ranked this number 1 (highest)
 - ii) 11 people ranked this number 2
 - iii) 13 people ranked this number 3
 - iv) 10 people ranked this number 4
 - v) 6 people ranked this number 5
 - vi) 1 people ranked this number 6
 - vii) 4 people ranked this number 7 (lowest)

Q4 – What would you like to see improved/changed in the market place?

25 people said more parking

41 people said more public spaces for walking / sitting

40 people said more trees /planting

40 people said better alignment of bus stops to prevent hold ups

22 people said better bus stops

47 people said safer crossing places for pedestrians

39 people said traffic management to slow cars

18 people said more disabled parking

10 people said more parent and child parking

25 people said more bike racks

37 people said better enforcement of parking restrictions

Q5 – Would you like to see any other changes to the market place?

- More market stalls
- Less cars
- Better improvement of the space
- Any reduction of parking must provide new spaces nearby
- No
- Leave it as it is
- More stalls on Market day
- Would like it to become a more social area, not just a car park
- More greenery, less cars and buses
- Disabled parking only, planting & seating, flexible open space
- Remove the buses to Budgens
- No large vehicles coming through
- Leave it as it is. Already changes have been made in the past 25 years.
- Ban parking at weekends completely. More parking but not in the Marketplace. No buses through Marketplace
- More seats
- More trees – more like French market places
- Your plan
- I like the ideas of changing the vehicular access
- Traffic needs to be much slower
- Pedestrian free Marketplace and Red Lion Street
- More pedestrianised areas
- More planting & Benches
- Increased number of stalls at the market
- Retain disabled parking. Improve pedestrian safety
- It would be great if Red Lion Street was only for access and buses
- Better signage – sign posting to church, heritage centre, BVR etc
- One way system around the carpark
- It would be good to be more pedestrianised and more social
- A pedestrianised social space and shopping centre with more market traders
- More bench seating for relaxation and coffee!
- Unfortunately Saturday 31/1/26 – too hard to see the event in the Town Hall
- Better surfacing to reflect historic value

- Fewer or no cars – Tourism advice

Q6 – What do you like about the concept for the market place?

Parking

- The number of parking spaces should be retained. Parking should be restricted to 30 minutes during shopping times
- It's ok – moving the spaces helps
- Retain short term parking
- Generally seems like good ideas
- Perhaps a change in parking spaces
- Need central parking to enable easy use of shopping
- Fair
- More parking
- Less parking, more elsewhere
- Just for disabled only
- Keep as it is
- More parking for elderly that have not got badges
- Decrease in parking in Town discourages visitors
- No parking all day – Limit hours
- Don't use the parking as we are local
- Certainly an improvement
- Agree do away with parking outside Postles and turn into a bus stop – next week!?
- Little parking for essential/disabled persons only – central parking more car parks for the town outside marketplace
- Moving out of the centre up to Norwich Road
- Not liked
- Free parking for visitors
- Mostly okay – quite a bit of coming and going to free up spaces at the moment
- Good to keep the entrance to Co-op free from traffic
- I would like less parking – providing there is an alternative nearby for elderly/disabled
- Looks like a better arrangement
- Don't think this is possible
- Looks like a reduction in parking which doesn't make sense even in the light of carbon emissions with electric cars on the increase
- Just disabled parking & parking for business deliveries & market traders
- We need no parking at all apart from disabled access
- 30% reduction in car parking will work against trade. Very few visitors use the bus – cars are prevalent
- Bad idea to reduce parking by 30%

- More parking but people and buses come first
- Support reduced parking
- Clearly marked parking bays. Good to only have cars on one side of the square
- Nothing

Bus Stop Alignment

- Good
- Not needed – hold ups do occur but not that often and not for long. Maybe timetabling of buses could be altered
- Avoiding bottlenecking
- The layby concept is a good idea
- Better (Avoids Road blockage)
- Better bus stop alignment
- Yes – so don't come at the same time. Keep the routes central
- Ok as it is
- Why not consult Saunders about timetabling?
- Fair
- Good idea
- Better, smart bus stops?
- Blocks access: Live streaming coming: No bus in Market Place
- Looks better
- Would be good for cars
- Making safer for bus users
- Lay by's a good idea but do they really need to come into the Marketplace?
- Unnecessary – people should have better consideration
- Better then now but would be even better if buses stopped elsewhere
- Norwich Road bus stop to be replaced
- Not a huge problem – maybe one minute wait if two coincide but leave it as it is
- Only happens relatively infrequently and slows down/discourages traffic. Perhaps a good odea to have somewhere for a bus to pull in?
- A good idea but may cause issues regarding loading/unloading for shops

Public Spaces

- Good
- Must be low maintenance
- Nice area to meet friends and chat
- More safety for existing area rather than pedestrianise
- Already have – no need to change
- Not enough
- Make it pretty! Planting & seating. Better street lights at night to prevent mischief!
- Improved

- Areas for people to sit
- Yes definitely need more for social activity
- There is plenty already
- More seating and trees to provide shade
- Better care of pavements needed for pedestrians and more dropped curbs rather than bumps
- Improving meeting areas will bring more folks into the marketplace and using shops
- More areas to sit & enjoy meeting friends would be nice & would support local businesses (coffee & cake etc)
- We need as much as possible
- Be nice to have spaces for people to meet and spend time together
- More seating areas
- Current provision seems adequate to me. Changes risk adding a possible increase to litter
- The pedestrianised square could have more seating & facilities for market traders
- We need a pedestrianised square with trees and seating and facilities for market traders
- These should be improved to be more pedestrian friendly
- Improvement of surfaces so that it reads like a cohesive multi-use space (a shared surface design concept with a 'toned down' definition of parking spaces and pedestrian crossing points). There are many good examples in conservation areas throughout the country, but very expensive to implement so maybe it's the wrong economic climate at the moment.
- Would be good to have more space for people to congregate.
- Current spaces could use suggestions to enhance the square without redesign excessiveness.

Road Alignment

- Good
- Ok
- Awkward but manageable!
- Change access
- Ok as it is
- Maybe near Penfold Street
- Fair
- One way end of Red Lion Street
- Remove big, sweeping curves for buses. Narrow entrances slow the traffic.
- Needs attention by Madeline's cafe
- Better view for buses on turning opposite Flour & Bean
- This makes it easier for the buses
- Traffic flow is too slow moving

- Seems risky to pedestrian safety
- More public space
- No need to remove pavement outside the opticians
- Junction change to Penfold Street could work to make it easier for buses to turn
- Slightly better – not sure its worth the expense though.
- The re-routing of the road to the church looks like a good idea – having a wider pavement near the shops adjacent to the pub would be great.
- Better turning for buses to and from Penfold Street but nothing else seems beneficial

Pedestrian Crossing

- A crossing near Red Lion Street and near the Black Boys
- Safer
- Very important to have more user friendly, safe ways to cross traffic areas
- Safer crossing points especially on Black Boys corner
- Good idea. Especially one from Black Boys to Stamp
- Good (Especially by Black Boys corner)
- Included in current parking to improve safety
- Helpful for safety
- No more needed
- Safer
- Are helpful to slow traffic. Can this be done with surface treatment instead of Zebras?
- Needed
- More crossings
- Definitely needed near Black Boys and Norwich Road meeting Red Lion Street
- Some needed but not too many
- Satisfactory as a rule
- The idea of making it safer to cross into the Marketplace
- Not good need one by the Black Boys
- Yes – really hard crossing the road
- Need to consider crossing point on Red Lion Street and near the Black Boys
- I don't think the second new crossing is well positioned. There is little pavement on the right side going out of Aylsham. Also the traffic can sometimes build up.
- Crossing at the end of Red Lion Street seems risky due to traffic flows from multiple directions and increasing difficulty of emerging from Burgh Road. Crossing from Black Boys risky, restricted vision for pedestrians for traffic from Blickling direction
- Better pedestrian movement over all to be encouraged.
- Extra safe crossing places will encourage pedestrian and general social use of the market place

Other

- Need more car parks elsewhere if removing spaces in Market place
- North Walsham has made amazing changes, why can't Aylsham?
- End of Red Lion Street one way only
- Street light improvement for Burgh Road as it is unsafe when dark. Important for visitors to Aylsham to have access to parking
- Didn't see the plan! At next meeting I will.
- Keep it as it is
- Good to slow down and discourage cars in the Marketplace area
- Looks like a good concept
- Give way along Penfold street needs to be reversed I.E. give way to cars coming out of the Market as it gets clogged up
- Transport hub idea is good but not practical
- No more trees please! Aylsham in Bloom boxes fine as long as not along Red Lion Street!
- Install parking meters
- Moving road is a good idea but rethink crossing points
- As I don't drive I'm not too concerned with parking but love the idea of making it more pedestrian friendly
- Would be good to keep the Marketplace traditional
- Having a carpark on Norwich Road
- Have you considered accessibility for HGV's, particularly articulated lorries delivering to Co-op?
- Need vehicle access to the church & more seating
- More trees and seating – I know this has been ruled out before but try again!
- We would like to see more public info posted online, on the front of the TH, newspapers etc
- One row of parking in the centre instead of two

Q7 – What do you dislike about the concept for the market place?

Parking

- Less spaces/possible charging
- How would disabled people be able to park and shop? Keep as it is with improvements for safety
- Reducing the amount of spaces, these are all needed
- Needs to be pedestrianised
- Stay as it is
- Not enough parking by far
- A Saturday morning crush
- Too restrictive – lack of spaces

- Aylsham needs more parking – commuters & bus passengers need somewhere else to park & transport back to Market Place.
- Reduction of parking spaces, Burgh Road carpark pay & Display
- No parking
- Banning traffic from parking Friday 5pm – Monday 8am (at least in summer months) as is common in Sweden/Denmark
- Not enough parking to access local facilities
- Can be hard to find a space at times
- Parking at Burgh Road always seems full!!
- Car movement in the Marketplace makes it unsafe for pedestrians
- Reduction in parking will impact on residential streets
- Use Keys sale yard for parking – negotiation needed! Still too many cars, just moved across the Marketplace from one area to another
- Could we just have parking for disabled drivers?
- Not enough
- I'd prefer less parking spaces in the Market
- No need for public cars
- Aylsham visitors use cars!
- Fewer spaces is not helpful!
- No less parking!
- Losing some parking spaces will not be popular!
- May cause problems for the charity shop donations (break) if no parking spaces – donors won't carry heavy bags from the other car parks.
- Blocking of unloading to shops. Awkward for market.

Bus Stop Alignment

- Change bus route
- Ok as it is
- Stay as it is
- Viewing is insufficient time
- Not good – Buses come and sit until time for them to go
- Keep buses in town
- Move buses and bus stops out of the Town Square
- Is there an option for buses everywhere?
- Would be great to have a proper bus hub outside of the Marketplace but I don't know where that could be!
- Is this necessary – works okay now
- I'd prefer the double decker's to use Burgh Road with a bus stop outside the Chinese/veg shop. I think we should have a park and ride car park near the NLD roundabout but would require a more frequent bus to be effective

- Plan should be wholistic to enhance space and not just reflect traffic management measures
- Somewhere for the bus to pull in may enable easier / faster traffic movement
- May cause issues for loading/unloading to shops. May create issues for pedestrian crossings due to sight block.

Public Spaces

- It's already a public space
- Improve
- Too much – there is plenty of public space already
- Not enough
- For thoughtful consideration
- Stay as it is
- Would prefer for Marketplace to be pedestrianised
- Use the pavement outside opticians for benches!
- Improved surfacing, less tarmac
- Ideally, a central public space should be a focus (very often in the middle). And there should be a central, useable pedestrian area. But this may not be possible because too many other requirements might have to be sacrificed.
- The current spaces could be improved without redesign.

- **Road Alignment**

- Change access
- Ok as it is
- Please insert into Aylsham post for wider coverage and responses
- Make Red Lion Street one way
- Would this really be cost effective?
- We need spaces in front of the Town Hall for benches & stalls. I don't think it should be reduced
- Makes parking more difficult – especially if events are on
- No charges needed – it works!
- I have concerns about access to the church
- Not sure about re-arrangement and narrowing of a road that leads to Norwich and Blickling.
- Access for deliveries to co-op and butchers and refuse collections very much hampered.

Pedestrian Crossing

- Not sure if one from Town Hall is necessary
- Incorporate crossings for safety

- Enough
- As it is but maybe one near the Black Boys
- Please insert into Aylsham post for wider coverage and responses
- Too many could cause build up of traffic at busy times
- End of Red Lion Street
- Needed for by the Black Boys – not very safe
- Need on Red Lion Street junction
- Given that traffic speeds are very low anyway, formalised zebra crossings may not be necessary except for perhaps Penfold Street. A shared surface, pedestrian priority area would look better and pedestrians would benefit.
- The excessive crossings would cause more hold ups than the current bus stops.

Other

- Disastrous changes in North Walsham Market place and Norwich Hay Hill – no go zones at certain times of the day
- Serious problem with the garage on Cawston Road
- Sort out parking on Burgh Road and Cawston Road
- I live on Burgh Road and am concerned about 1)access along Burgh Road 2)maintenance on Burgh Road 3)parking in the centre to access local facilities
- Not keen on one way!
- Doesn't address the problems in Red Lion Street – very dangerous!
- Just don't think it will work and very expensive
- Traffic and parking will get worse with new houses being built!
- Lack of bike racks
- Will there still be places for car parking in the Market?
- Priority to pedestrians. It is hazardous at the moment
- The priority should be to pedestrians with vehicles only allowed for access & serving businesses
- Its been as it is for hundreds of years. Not perfect but it works. Don't waste public money!
- Don't like the new concept at all!
- Map too confusing to follow
- Very little thought given to the uses including the markets.