

Headline results from the survey on temporary changes to the Town Centre!

We were delighted with the response to our survey asking for your views on how we could – even if on a temporary basis – make our town centre more welcoming to for visitors, while maintaining social distance. More than 100 of you replied online or in hard copy. We asked if you supported some of the suggestions made to us and for your views on what could be done. The headline results are below.

It is clear that you want speeds through the town to be reduced and there was strong support for a one-way system round The Green. We have asked KCC to help us achieve this.

| Suggestion | Support | Do not support |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| Restrict speed of traffic through the town centre | 114 | 2 |
| Make a one-way system around The Green | 95 | 15 |
| Part pedestrianise The Green – access for residents and deliveries only | 64 | 48 |
| Completely pedestrianise The Green | 33 | 79 |
| Expand area for outdoor dining or market type stalls | 77 | 46 |
| 'Residents only' parking around The Green | 51 | 59 |

Views on other changes around The Green were mixed – so we will need to do more work before deciding if we take these forwards. But it is clear that you don't want The Green fully pedestrianised.

As well as our comments on traffic and The Green, you highlighted the perennial need for parking, and the need to keep our town clean and tidy. You also thought that on a temporary basis only, the areas for outdoor dining could be expanded.

Delayed by Covid-19, we hope to be able to start construction of the additional parking spaces on Hartley and Madan Roads, at Costell's Meadow and at Crockham Hill playing Field. We are also pleased that SDC's street cleaning will be back to normal levels by the end of this month – meantime we have increased litter clearing on King George's Field.

There is much more to do; we will continue to do our best and will keep you informed