

Email Consultation Responses on Character Assessments

Consultee	CA number	Comment	Suggested Changes	Forum Response
Ruth Wilkinson		8 Spelling of Gypsy, there are 2 occurrences of Gypsy and 2 of Gpsy.		The correct spelling has been now used.
Chris Clifford		9 There are large numbers of dwellings in Windmill Road with original Edwardian house names, many carved or permanently marked into the buildings. I believe Stephanie Jenkins may have a comprehensive list of these including where names have been lost.		NOTED - thanks
Chris Clifford		9 A number of dwellings especially between Margaret and Gathorne Road have original terracotta detailing still present (seen also in St Anne's Road) on front elevations		NOTED - thanks
Noel Hodson		8, 10, 20 We are in Brookside in area 8. Our house straddles Boundary Brook. During 2006-09 the Manor Hospital on London Road spilled untreated raw sewage down the arm of the brook that starts as springs under the ex-football stadium & petrol station on London Road, opposite Lime Walk. There were about 100, hour long spillages down the brook. Thames Water engineers eventually tracked the sewage outlet. In the 3 year long process, detailed maps of Boundary Brook were produced. The complex brook network, adopted as part of The Thames, arises from clear springs and, pertinently, drains much of Headington's surface water. It is bounded by ponds on Monks Wood, Shotover, crossing the by-pass; by London Road to The White Horse pub, and by Old Road. It flows across Cowley Golf Course & Cowley Marsh and down to Donnington Bridge, by the Sea Scout's boat house. Much of the brook is now underground. There is a long stretch through the NCC. It emerges above ground at the end of Latimer Road, across Brookside then goes underground and takes a sharp left turn at the end of Highfield Avenue, under the recreation ground and Old Road, to emerge on the Churchill side - in Lye Valley. The brook races in full spate during sudden rain-storms - sweeping Headington's street litter down to the Thames. One day, perhaps, more of the brook could be uncovered and its banks gardened.		NOTED - thanks
Anon	8, 9, 10	Part of Brookside does not appear on any map.		Brookside is contained within CA 10
Andrew Carter	15	the Nurses Home referred to on page 2 was demolished in 1991! Tidying that up would require deleting the sentence: <i>A Nurses Home, by N. W. Harrison, was completed in 1914.</i> It appears on page 2 under the heading 'Historical Development', 3rd para, 2nd sentence.		The reference to the Nurses Home has been removed.
Andrew Carter	15	a FoWM colleague has created an up-to-date map (attached) covering the Warneford site, showing the new Highfield Unit and outlining the extent of the town green. Even if you don't think it is necessary to use it in place of the one currently in the character assessment, it might come in useful at some point.		NOTED - thanks
Heather Armitage	19	Please could you include an image of Warren Meadow (land adjacent to Warren Crescent) in your assessment? I attach an example. Do delete the image of the allotment site gates - the spiked fence is rather unattractive - albeit necessary!		Image of allotment site gates removed.
Heather Armitage	19	I don't know if your C & I report should include negatives - but the free car park for commuters seems to me to attract cars to Headington - who wouldn't park for nothing if they can? Image attached		NOTED - The Forum does not have the power to close car parks.
Heather Armitage	19	as far as we locals know, the roads leading off from Girdlestone Road are called Town Furze Estate. Across the Slade is Wood Farm. Across Peat Moors and the Lye Brook is Peat Moors Estate. The Tudor botanists must have come down Shotover Hill, past Titup Hall Drive and then through the Lye Valley on their way to Cowley and the Oxford Botanic Garden. (Or possibly vice versa).		Noted - thanks
Colin Taylor	12	Use of Ramsey Road recreation ground: The central area of the recreation ground is very open with its football/cricket sports use. The recreation ground would be more attractive and pleasant if two or three large trees (possibly Cedar, Scots Pine and/or poplar) be planted on the western side.		NOTED - this could be considered as a future project for the Green Spaces Working Group.
Colin Taylor	11	Add to heritage assets: Most streets on the East of Windmill Road have street trees planted on footpaths at least every 40 m.		
Colin Taylor	11	Add to issues: Windmill Road is used as a main urban thoroughfare but space for pedestrians and cyclists is restricted.		
Colin Taylor	11	Add to Guidance for new design: Pavements are particularly important as they are much used by long-distance bus/coach travellers. Pavement trees should be encouraged. Pavements should be friendly to suitcases on wheels.		
Colin Taylor	11	Add to Guidance for new design: Most building is two storeys which seems appropriate for the area.		
Colin Taylor	11	This area, having no parks or open areas, relies on nearby areas for its recreation grounds and open dog walking.		
Colin Taylor	11	? Make some mention of Oxford Brooks student accommodation (Champneys Court) and the recent flats at the back of no 84/82, Windmill Road, in Windmill Road? This could be added near the reference to Martin Wigglesworth House.		
Colin Taylor	11	The boundary of this area is controversial. It would be better to include Rock Edge down to Old Road in Area 11. Doesn't Windmill Road including the old windmill area beside Old Road and the quarrying activity in Rock Edge fit well within this area? Without it area 11 has no greenery at all and Rock Edge is a frequent destination for those wanting fresh air, dog walkers etc. which do pass from area 11 to Rock Edge. Even the isolation of the hospital units into separate areas is devious as it seems to discourage commonality between adjacent areas.		All of the comments made in these responses have been noted and discussed at the Policy Working Group with thanks. All responses are highly valued and have been added to the Character Assessments where it is felt appropriate. The scope of the assessments does not allow for all the details which some respondents would like to see included. Exclusion of some details does not mean that they are unvalued. The character assessments were put together by volunteers working to specific guidelines, rather than members of the working group. It should be noted for all responses that it is impractical to ask the several teams of volunteers to revise their assessments on the basis of individual comments. Similarly, once boundaries for the areas were set, it is not possible to change them without affecting all the survey work which has gone before.
Colin Taylor	11	This area has numerous fruit trees because of historical use and favourable soil types. Can this be included positively somewhere?		
Colin Taylor	11	Many of the houses on the east of this area have attractive stanchions at their boundaries, decorative small front gardens, and low walls. Only houses in the Square and New High Street have no front gardens. Has this been covered appropriately?		
Colin Taylor	11	Post Office (and I) thinks the correct presentation is 'St Annes Road' rather than 'St Anne's Road'. I have been advised to use 1920s for years rather than 1920's as the possessive apostrophe is inappropriate.		
Colin Taylor	11	I can not think of any multi-occupied houses in this area, so I question the verity of its reference. Most rented accommodation is in Windmill Road and Bateman Street. [Puzzlingly Woodridge Court, which does have a lot of rented properties, seems to be in area 12.]		
Colin Taylor	11	Not sure why area 11 should include half a car park at St Leonards Road/Windmill Road corner.		
Colin Taylor	11	The resident's parking at St Leonards Road is important as it mitigates against the problem of numerous houses in this area without parking within their grounds.		
Colin Taylor	11	Small businesses have been in New High Street for many years and are worth mentioning.		
Colin Taylor	11	The area defined by Windmill Road, Margaret Road, St Annes Road, and Gathorne Road is one of only two residential squares in Headington enclosing substantial rear gardens.		
Colin Taylor	11	Add to Guidance for new design: Retain centre open areas in the rear gardens enclosed by Windmill Road, Margaret Road, St Annes Road, and Gathorne Road.		
Colin Taylor	11	Windmill Road is no broader than Margaret Road so it may be misleading to describe it thus. In fact it is remarkable how narrow Windmill Road is north of Margaret Road considering its traffic load.		