

# **Bishopthorpe@Crossroads**

## **Street Audit Returns 2004**

### **Introduction**

The people involved in the street audit were also in part people who completed questionnaire returns. There may also be overlap with the Library Questionnaire. It would therefore be inappropriate to include these opinions in the topic number totals from the Questionnaire returns.

Nonetheless, these opinions give a valuable subjective and contextual background. The immediacy of the responses and the strong views of the respondents are very clear from the content of the audit sheets.

Not a lot of people collected audit sheets individually. Those who did soon found ideas pressed upon them by passers-by who enthusiastically offered reactions and opinions.

An attempt is made below to narrate and reflect these views.

### **Visual impressions**

People were very critical of the present state of the area. They noted that it was untidy, congested and even potentially dangerous.

There was evidence of neglect - especially with the Pinfold, the area in front of the shops and the build-out paving near the Methodist Church. There was fly-posting on the fence of the Old School, and buildings and fences are in need of paint. Eyesores included the Library roof lights, the gas installation and the remains of the old bus shelter.

Illegally parked cars added to the intrinsic hazards of the road junction.

### **Needs**

Pedestrian crossing provision;

Seating for the elderly;

A coherently designed and properly enforced parking scheme, to incorporate disabled parking provision (esp. at school start/finish times);

Lowered kerbs at appropriate points - for both infant and disabled use;

Improved drainage;

Redesign of area fronting shops.

The need to maintain sightlines for drivers when changes are made was noted,

particularly those exiting School Lane.

### **Desirable improvements**

Screen gas structure

Improve appearance of Library building - paint as necessary, re-sign, improve look of the roof

Improve privately owned corner site;

Collect rubbish;

Erect feature (water/name sign/flagpole/ visitor information) in Pinfold;

Plant - trees/flowers/greenery – generally, and also in Pinfold, by Library, on Main Street properties

Restore neglected pavement near Methodist Church;

Install better designed streetlamps - with hanging baskets;

Involve private owners (shops and corner site).

### **Perceived threats**

Library closure if case for improvement pressed;

Youth congregation/vandalism.

### **Individual ideas**

Close end of Copmanthorpe Lane to vehicles;

Change bus route direction;

Use an old boat (planted) as feature;

Involve children (school projects);

Pitched roof on Library;

Various detailed changes or innovations - paving and planting.

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