**Respondents’ Comments from Vision and Objectives Questionnaire**

**Vision**

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| --- |
| **A welcoming, vibrant, safe, people-friendly town centre** |
| We need a Police Station that’s actually OPEN in that caseDisabled accessOnly if something is done about the traffic – nowI don’t want Axminster to be “vibrant”. I want it to be quiet.Full of immigrants and refugees |
| **A strong local economy, with thriving businesses and a variety of jobs** |
| Power Tools if we are lucky – Carpets gone to housing |
| **Excellent infrastructure and facilities serving the needs of the local community** |
| With enough school places and medical supportGet the Hospital beds back then!!!PriorityIncluding inpatient hospital and libraryDesperately needed!For older people on their ownThis is the most crucial before this! (*ie housing*)Build a mosque |
| **A wide range of housing, including affordable homes for local people** |
| Far to much New houses alreadyBut not more than the roads and welfare facilities and other infrastructure can supportOnly if the infrastructure is there to support it!!No more building necessaryAlready provided by Bovis and Waine Homes no more requiredOnly affordableProbably built on land that’s not safe etc and not real locals!Most important. (Stop building without infrastructure)Within reason. We are a small town.Bearing in mind local salariesNo more houses thoughNot before sorting out safety in town of its shoppersNot the unwanted from the cities being dumped here!Too many housesNo more – just cheaperNo more housingLocals gone, immigrants over run |
| **A beautiful, unspoilt countryside setting beside the River Axe** |
| Please do not destroy our last piece of countryside. The bovis homes development have already done thatNot if you keep building over it!!ObviouslySadly I doubt. Most of our “beautiful countryside” will be invaded by Bovis Homes and property developers ..!! Lets be real!Hardly with all these new houses being built!It’s already partly spoiltOur green fields are slowly all being built on. Latest: Field next to Lamb Inn privately purchased “No right of way”. Soon all fields will be the same, if this building continues!To get the local council and Tescos to tidy the land running alongside the leat, it is an eyesore full of rubbish and tins.Not with all the dirt and litter all over the countrysideAxminster already is so unless too much building on greenfield sites is allowedShame the housing is being built besides river out towards Weycroft. Unspoilt countryside!!Being spoilt by buildingTo provide a park for public useWith too many houses and no jobs – another Seaton |
| **General** |
| Not qualified to make accurate commentsGod only knows!! From the Anthology of PUBLIC PRAYER: “God bless our years, giving us time for the task, PEACE for the pathway, WISDOM for the work Friends for the fireside and LOVE to the LAST”This is all about your objectives, not ours as members of the public. When do we get an opportunity – as Council Tax paying residents – to give suggestions and opinions!!An opportunity missed to hear voice of localsWe are unsure how you could disagree with any of these!The “dead man’s shoes” local council does not, and never has, inspired any confidence whatsoever |

**Objectives**

|  |
| --- |
| **1. TOWN CENTRE OBJECTIVE** |
| **To ensure free-flowing traffic with no congestion** |
| Terrible at the moment |
| No congestion means more speed |
| Combined with pedestrian friendliness |
| Currently a big problem |
| Stupid question |
| A must! |
| Where possible |
| Relief Road from the Chard Road to Kilmington to Axminster west side of the town ie Bradfords, Mole Avon, Axminster Carpets. George “monstrosity” – tear down hotel and put in a roundabout – desperately needed possible with traffic lights |
|  |
| **To provide green spaces within the curtilage of the town** |
| Where? Built on Cloakham and Foxhill |
| All possible green spaces are being swallowed up |
| Where |
| There are green spaces all around |
| Essential for material well-being |
| Upkeep? |
| How about within new residential development as well? |
|  |
| **To encourage vibrant businesses and shops with local and national brands** |
| Local not national |
| Local (*national deleted)* emphasis |
| Great care needed with national brands – can still ?? no to a clone town |
| Where, why? |
|  |
| **To deliver good public transport links** |
| Especially for the villages |
| I believe these are already good |
|  |
| **To increase visitor accommodation** |
| What about a hotel in the town ie The George |
| The George? |
| Not necessary in the town itself |
| Is there a need? |
| Where? |
|  |
| **To support exciting retail and residential opportunities on “brown-field” town-centre sites** |
|  |
|  |
|  |
| **2. ECONOMY OBJECTIVE** |
| **To encourage business start-ups** |
| We hope |
| On existing sites |
| What size |
|  |
| **To attract/promote diverse employment opportunities** |
| Building houses on industrial land!! |
| Constant property building but no new companies (jobs) |
|  |
| **To create an attractive economic environment for companies wishing to relocate** |
| Not at the expense of other services |
| Whole company not half |
|  |
| **To support existing businesses** |
| Assume mainly retail |
| Not at the expense of progress |
| If they are sustainable |
| How? |
| Buy local |
| 20 mins free parking in the Coop car park to encourage use of the Coop. |
|  |
| **To protect existing employment land** |
| Don’t know what this means |
| Yes but built houses next to industrial estate! |
| Not at the expense of progress |
|  |
| **To enable training and development of skills**  |
| Depends what for |
| Where |
| Schools/colleges do this |
|  |
| **3. INFRASTRUCTURE/FACILITES OBJECTIVE** |
| **To deliver a north/south relief road to enable a free-flow of traffic in and around Axminster** |
| Please try to extend the north/south relief road beyond Weycroft. Maybe our MP could help. |
| Top priority |
| V important don’t bow to developers |
| Very important |
| Very important |
| Yes, but where? |
| Priority if Axminster not to grind to a halt |
| To correct the mis-location of the original by-pass |
| No better town centre flow |
| Must |
| **To provide health and social services for all residents** |
| Including local inpatient facilities |
| Of course |
| Hospital with beds |
| Must be in place before houses built |
| Additional surgery needed |
| At old Magistrates Court |
| We already have these |
| Hospital! |
| Overloaded! |
| To provide better/more?? |
| Gov/DCC money? |
| Protect the library from cuts/closure |
|  |
| **To offer a range of schools and colleges** |
| Private? |
| Additional school needed |
| Control by whom |
| Why? We have sufficient |
| We have enough good schools/colleges! |
| We already have. Do you build more schools? |
| Whose money? |
|  |
| **To enhance leisure and recreational activities** |
| Excellent |
| What, for instance? |
| Not really necessary |
| Ice skating rink? |
| We have enough |
| Where, Kind |
|  |
| **To provide safe pedestrian and cycle routes** |
| Pedestrian agree, cycle disagree |
| Free of weeds and dog poo |
| It’s a nightmare! |
| Continue |
|  |
| **4. HOUSING OBJECTIVE** |
| **To deliver a mix of housing to suit a wide market** |
| 1st time buyers 1st |
| Not poor quality |
| Too many already |
| £90K – 1 million? |
| But not out of proportion to the town |
| With sensible sized gardens not postage stamps |
| Present level of house building does not appear ?? |
| To build affordable homes for local people on low wages or zero contracts, also to stop buy to let and holiday homes on any housing in our local area. Develop the George Hotel or demolish it and put a roundabout in its place. |
| A good mix |
| Sufficient already |
| Less 2nd homes |
| Only on brown field “empties” |
| Locality? Where? |
| The present range of new builds need to be improved upon. They do not enhance Axminster. |
| To include more tree planting/plants and open green spaces as “core”. |
|  |
| **To provide affordable homes for local people** |
| Affordable homes 1st |
| Using existing housing not new builds |
| On low/ordinary wages no home is affordable nowadays |
| More important than above |
| Already provided if you don’t sell them to Birmingham |
| Priority |
| Locality? Where? |
| What is affordable? |
|  |
| **To deliver homes with attractive designs suited to a traditional market town** |
| Not bothered really |
|  |
| **To incorporate local materials, in keeping with the neighbouring environment** |
| No more |
|  |
| **5. ENVIRONMENT OBJECTIVE** |
| **To protect and enhance the attractive and distinctive environment** |
| Not much left now |
| Good footpaths |
| Not if it stops progress |
| Then stop building! |
| Pity Cloakham Park wasn’t protected |
| Clean it up! Our streets and roads! |
| Where? |
|  |
| **To safeguard and manage outstanding natural features**  |
| By houses? |
| What and Where |
| Not George Hotel |
|  |
|  |
| **To respect the floodplain and its catchments** |
| Strongly agree |
| And minimize pollution of river from run-off and other sources |
| Ie don’t build on it |
| You do not |
| Totally essential!! |
| Link to dev. Informal nature reserve |
|  |
| **To promote green corridors** |
| Not sure what this means |
| Where? |
| What are these? |
| Retain what we have left |
| Where what we had is being built on |
| Must be done. |

**Additional Comments**

**Note 1: The numbering is for reference purposes only and cannot be used to identify individual questionnaires.**

**Note 2: ?? means it has not been possible to decipher the handwriting.**

**Note 3: Words in *italics* have been added to assist the reader but do not form part of the original response.**

**Note 4: Where a respondent has provided personal details eg name, address these have been removed from the response to protect the respondent’s identity and a comment added to indicate where this applies.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | I would be more likely to do all my shopping in Axminster if you had a good quality supermarket instead of having to drive 10 miles to one |
| **2** | Agree with all your objectives but planning has not looked to the future the industrial site cannot expand built residential on employment land, hospital cannot expand, bad planning at Millbrook and building on a football field (green space) |
| **3** | Surely this is what is happening now! |
| **4** | If needed, stilted homes could be built on the flood plain. Or floating houses |
| **5** | How would these improvements be paid for? |
| **6** | Stop building more houses |
| **7** | Stop building houses that will just fall down |
| **8** | This town urgently needs the traffic problems sorted out. Musbury Road and Stoney Lane especially dangerous. If these areas are sorted out and improved the town will be able to expand and grow with no danger to the population. All traffic bottlenecks must be removed. |
| **9** | Please ensure that no development whatsoever is allowed west of the River Axe and railway. If this were to happen then this would completely destroy your vision 5 overleaf. |
| **10** | Community hospital open with beds to relieve pressure on Exeter hospital. Direct bus to Sidmouth. Parking prices should be on a level with Dorset. |
| **11** | By far the most valuable thing is to get the definite start on the propose North/South bypass. Axminster would immediately be transformed. |
| **12** | Axminster was a thriving town in the 60s |
| **13** | The 60s and 70s were very good in Axminster |
| **14** | All of the above represent “common sense” but any increase in population must have regard for existing doctor/dentist provision and school availability. We need to get back our local hospital beds and facilities without delay for the ever increasing elderly population |
| **15** | Desperate for relief road |
| **16** | Vision questions pointless. Anyone disagreeing couldn’t be serious. |
| **17** | Bigger retail shops like M&S Food shop (similar to one in Tiverton) restaurant where you can sit outside. Free parking near Doctors. If you pay 50p in Co-op car park for ½ hr this is not long enough. You get free parking @ Axminster Hospital. So frustrating when nowhere to park near Doctors, Tescos is nearest. No good for people who can’t walk. |
| **18** | No expansion in housing should be considered until the community infrastructure can support it. We cannot registered with NHS dental facilities, they are full. The community hospital is already being run down. |
| **19** | A much freer traffic flow would be made if the George was taken down. Would need to see a map of the brownfield sites within the town. If you allow major companies then Axminster becomes just another town. |
| **20** | The north south bypass should go from north of the railway bridge on the 358, along the north side of Greatwood Lane Sisterhood Farm Cloakham Uphay Farm Hunthay Lane join the A35 at Yarty Bridge. This would cure the bottle neck at Weycroft Bridge. |
| **21** | Relocate Thursday Market to Websters Garage enabling more stalls and getting rid of congestion in Square |
| **22** | Excellent ideas although I am unsure how realistic they are! How and who will pay for these grand ideas? |
| **23** | Your objectives and vision for Axminster in an ideal world are spot on but too many houses, too quickly without enough infrastructure in place/bypass: hospital with no beds less police bigger population, doctors surgery very busy already. Green fields being lost for ever Primary School with problems, pupils let down SATS exam last Sept. |
| **24** | Interim traffic controls to ease congestion – make Stoney Lane Chard Street, Castle St and Church St one way. Reinstate town centre pavements to original width – surely it was obvious that widening them would add to congestion. I also regret to say that I cannot envisage the George ever becoming a viable business proposition, just the next town centre eyesore. |
| **25** | We strongly object to the building of houses outside the “built-up area boundary” of Axminster. Provisions should be made for money from s106 agreements to fund facilities that are wanted by the community – could this be achieved through a committee or similar? |
| **26** | North-South relief road is “high priority” |
| **27** | This town needs the hospital |
| **28** | All services need to be increased to cope with the influx of people moving into area to all new houses being built on our green fields. |
| **29** | From Chard to Ax Station relief road ie follow the rail tracks (like the motorway in London put it on piles!) To benefit power for Ax ?? use the river using water turbines. There is also a need for some coach parking There is no place in Axminster for visitors to be set down or pick up (they ??) economy in town but cannot get to spend it. |
| **30** | Please may the Jubilee Field be re-developed with a tarmac path connecting Dukes Way with Boxall Road ASAP! We want to enjoy it. |
| **31** | Local “affordable” should only be for people from Axminster. If we already “import” residents (2015) we must “already” have enough stock for local people.Why was the artificial pitch built – it is hardly used? The money could have been used to keep the hospital beds open (I know – different “pot”)!Cycle routes between estates will only bring trouble! |
| **32** | Think again about the positioning of a relief road otherwise we are losing the atmosphere of a market town. Why don some of the transport use the A35 instead of going through the town. |
| **33** | School is needed and a functional hospital to accommodate all the new houses. |
| **34** | To encourage the take up of renewable energy by supporting/promoting community energy schemes or the transition town initiative.To provide excellent, comprehensive recycling schemesTo support local community groups and encourage community action and initiatives |
| **35** | To stop private parking in Square (loading only) using Webster site for short term cheap parking letting buses use behind the monument |
| **36** | Install speed cameras or restrictions on major routes through the town |
| **37** | How can anyone disagree? Where will the money come from? Employ only builders whose houses do not subside or need repair in the short term. Do not allow building or ?? with life corridors eg Dukes Way/Brunenburg Way. Make owners of premises in town replace/repair guttering and maintain frontages. Compare Mortons with Martins. Maintain roads/pavements inspection covers in Lyme Road |
| **38** | But that “vision” will only be achieved if the A358 through traffic is taken out of the town. |
| **39** | It would be very perverse to disagree with any of these! I would have thought promoting tourism would be listed in 2. |
| **40** | Axminster Chamber of Commerce are launching an initiative to drive these objectives forward from 2016 – xref Shane Morgan, Chairman |
| **41** | A North South relief road would help to promote and enhance many of these objectives listed. |
| **42** | This form does not accommodate diversity of response, degrees of agreement or any opportunity to prioritise. 90% of the objectives are ones no-one could disagree with. I’ve lived here many years but am thinking of leaving as it is a much less pleasant place to live. Your “vision” does not address the necessary questions and the size of these box reflects little interest in meaningful response. *(name, address and telephone number provided)* |
| **43** | I agree, but how will the present council manage this, we need young, forward thinking innovative people to drive these ideas, not dinosaurs. |
| **44** | Don’t build the north/south relief by Lyme Road |
| **45** | Do what is practical and sensible for the town to keep it an inspiring market town |
| **46** | Why do we not encourage national brands and entertainment for 18-30 and 40-50 yrsWhy do we not properly develop the Websters site 30+ years – come onThe town centre for pedestrians is dangerous with movement of HG vehicles and high volume of traffic. The North South relief road is important but not at the expense of local residents – do it properly or not at allIs the George Hotel the next eyesore in the making |
| **47** | This is pie in the sky, will never happen, dream on |
| **48** | I was flooded out 2012 what has been done a flood wall nothing else *(name and address provided)* |
| **49** | I don’t feel it needs to be retail. Retailing is changing. More entertainment and safe places to socialise music, theatre, entertainment |
| **50** | To make sure the new homes are of a quality build not just quantity, and maintain green space around them. |
| **51** | Warning: parked cars on too narrow roads on new estates a REAL HAZARD. Future estates should have off road parking and better design of road layout for safety and access. |
| **52** | All the objectives detailed on this form are desirable in a perfect world. However nearly all depend on a good infrastructure. A North South by-pass is of paramount importance and no further development should take place until his has been put in place otherwise the town congestion problems will only be compounded. Stop pontificating and get on with it. |
| **53** | The need for a relief road can clearly be seen with the amount of traffic going through the town centre. This is especially obvious when Stoney Lane or Chard Road has been closed. A town centre with less through traffic would be a much more attractive place to shop for local residents. |
| **54** | Pipe dreams rarely come true. Demolish the George to allow free access to A358 and A35. Ban loading/unloading between 8am and 6pm |
| **55** | We have for some time now been asking for the 40mph sign on the A35 to be moved further west away from Hunters Lodge possibly incorporating the Axminster turning as cars are frequently going 60mph as they pass Trinity Hill Road. |
| **56** | 1 This is a husband and wife return2 Congratulations on this survey3 Although our family use our house as a holiday home we consider ourselves resident |
| **57** | Remove George Hotel – replace with low roundaboutOpen up car park (Vinces Garage) this Xmas!Re-open Axminster Hospital ASAP!Box House football field to become park as promised? |
| **58** | To restrict the building of houses, and ensure Axminster is not a commuter base for example Exeter |
| **59** | These yes/no options are inadequate as they cover too wide a range of possibilities.Traffic, especially lorries, should be diverted around the town not sped through |
| **60** | We live at the top of hill in Flax Meadow *(postcode provided)* Really need pedestrian pathway onto Stoney Lane/Lime Road for route into town centre (for us and many neighbours) |
| **61** | Very little extra housing is required, considering the number already in progress. |
| **62** | We need relief road before any more buildings are built |
| **63** | Disagrees *(3.1 and 3.4)* – with money in short supply do not see these as a priority would like to have seen suggestions re care for elderly!!! |
| **64** | Housing for local people – low cost housing.North/south relief road is necessary to stop heavy vehicles using townAnother Dr surgery as town is rapidly growing and help existing surgery. Get beds back at Axminster Hospital. |
| **65** | Off road footpaths – easier access to swimming pool/gym from Chard Road and west. Footpath from Stoney Lane roundabout – to follow Millbrook stream to cycle/footpath and sporting facilities at Cloakham. Open again entrance to footpath to Sector Lane and beyond was used regularly. No green public parks in areas in Axminster – it’s a bus ride to Lyme Regis or Seaton to enjoy their facilities and spend our money where there. |
| **66** | There are numerous buses which travel through Axminster of necessity, so there is unlikely to be “free flow of traffic” through the town centre all the time |
| **67** | The pavements in town are too narrow and traffic, especially large vehicles, pose a risk to pedestrians who are often having trouble trying to pass on-coming pedestrians. Also we need the library and elderly residents need space for their walking aids electric wheelchairs etc and even pavements. |
| **68** | We need a hospital with a minor injuries unit and convalescent beds |
| **69** | However much detail goes into the objectives for Axminster they remain distant dreams and virtually impossible to achieve. Much hard work would e required by a competent and capable staff together with a vast amount of money, both of which are presently in short supply. |
| **70** | We are at risk of over building and losing valuable farm land and green spaces |
| **71** | While I agree with the objectives I have very little faith in the ability of local authorities to deliver them in a co-ordinated manner. Current objective appears to be to permit as much house building as possible very little on brownfield sites, with no real energy being directed towards improving the roads and infrastructure |
| **72** | Massive need to improve public transport after 5pm to encourage flexibility in choices to work outside the town. |
| **73** | A new north south bypass should not include Weycroft Bridge |
| **74** | Use existing roads for north/south by-pass ie Lyme Road and A35. No more housing developments. Link with the EDDC area plan if that is ever published ….. |
| **75** | North/south relief road desperately needed before anything else |
| **76** | There needs to be more information. These questions are wide open to interpretation |
| **77** | The houses being built now will be enough for the moment. We must have 1. Relief road N/South 2. Business for employment 3. Clear traffic problems in the Town Centre 4. Use the hospital for extension of GP surgery 5. Build more shops |
| **78** | All the objectives over and above would be nice but the town has been going down hill in the last 40 years less shops less everything toilets as well |
| **79** | The countryside is being spoilt by reckless building on green field land and the councillors not listening to the town folks wishes on ugly excessive building in the Axminster area |
| **80** | Provide a local hospital under new bod (north south east & west Devon NHS not fit for purpose)Provide youth clubs and sports clubs for teenagers and tots |
| **81** | We consider this to be a quite meaningless survey. Who wouldn’t agree to the objectives shown? How to achieve them would be ore to the point and worthy of a response. |
| **82** | The easiest and cheapest way to improve Axminster would be to demolish the George Hotel to improve traffic flow through the town (Chairman of planning for a northern Authority for 15 years ex planning officer) |
| **83** | No housing for grockles! |
| **84** | Dog mess on pavements = health hazard |
| **85** | As I am disabled I would like more social facilities for disabled people – possibly at Axminster Hospital. |
| **86** | Stupid questionnaire. Not at all constructive or designed for discussion. Not worth the paper it’s written on. |
| **87** | 1 Re-open Axminster Hospital with full complement of beds and improve facilities2 Consider fracking |
| **88** | The traffic system definitely needs sorting as the town is often clogged up spoiling the visit by tourists and discouraging other local businesses from setting up here |
| **89** | Review “on road” parking: there are dangerous black spots eg on Lea Combe, opposite Police/Fire Stations where the road curves and becomes “blind”. Current yellow sig zags are being ignored |
| **90** | It all sounds wonderful but I cannot see it happening |
| **91** | Affordable social housing should be built for locals on low incomes |
| **92** | Support increased recycling of plastics. Support community policing. Divert traffic from town centre |
| **93** | Most independent shops will help to preserve the unique well being of the town |
| **94** | When are we going to get the North/South relief road? The heavy traffic now on our roads is destroying our town. We need action not words. |
| **95** | I do not want an “inner” relief road. A road behind Millwey joining Lyme Road outside town would be acceptable. As would a route for HGVs avoiding the town centre, using this route |
| **96** | The north/south relief road (3) must be a priority for delivery for the sake of the objectives of the Town Centre, Economy, Infrastructure etc. It is key. |
| **97** | The questionnaire is not very helpful. It is a bit “motherhood and apple pie”. It will be important to prioritise all the above and put timings/phasings into the plan. I have indicated my view on priorities as \* *(\*against 1.1,1.3,2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, and 5.1)* |
| **98** | If and when the town gets its bypass, the town will need to become more attractive to pull people into Axminster. Leisure and rec.initiatives and shopping. Encourage pleasant place to live and play |
| **99** | School curriculum should include Religious Education and for younger children school assemblies also with RE |
| **100** | Investigate the possibility of a one-way system through the town. Stop parking for cars in the square |
| **101** | There is a need for a town bus |
| **102** | Get large lorries out of the centre of town. Make sure we have good housing for low paid workers, away from the flood plain |
| **103** | Speed cameras at Hunters Lodge |
| **104** | Need for more social housing |
| **105** | Demolish the George Hotel to cope with modern traffic. Build a public toilet somewhere in the Websters garage space. |
| **106** | Kindergarten. Of course this is what we need. Can we see the plan to effect it all. We’ve been waiting for the N/S bypass for years!! |
| **107** | Separate medical centre at Millwey provided )Parks needed for recreation ) in 2016Complete tidy-up ??/pavements/road ) |
| **108** | Local hospital used better. Bring back wards or turn off more lighting or use better cheaper lights for streets |
| **109** | No development on green fields |
| **110** | Format does not discriminate between priorities and other lesser social needs. Too much talk not enough action. What happened to Vision 2015? |
| **111** | I don’t believe your vision can be achieved in a mere 15 years. Your objectives should evolve ore naturally over time. Better to set more realistic targets, especially on infrastructure. Have you considered the effects of internet on shopping and business when planning a vibrant thriving town centre |
| **112** | No congestion – great idea but in reality? |
| **113** | No more houses only social needed. Need to re-open hospital beds. Another doctors surgery and NHS dentist. More schools or enlarge ones we have. |
| **114** | At present the infrastructure and floodplain are being grossly neglected. |
| **115** | Less heavy goods vehicles in town so dangerous. More parking protecting residents less for holiday makers. |
| **116** | I do not want Axminster to get too large. The town should not keep on expanding. I like living in a small country town. The empty hotel in the town centre should be used for the benefit of the community |
| **117** | We need a lot more public transport. There are far too many substandard houses being built – future ghettos. |
| **118** | All these objectives have been known to be needed for a long period of time, little has bee achieved so far. As budges tighten much will not be achieved therefore there is need to prioritise. Concentration on road improvements and a halt to further housing build until infrastructure is addressed and public town/village transport links are introducedPrioritise: *(1.1; 1.4; 2.1; 3.2; 3.3; 4.2; 5.1)* |
| **119** | Encourage Lidl supermarket to Axminster |
| **120** | Axminster is experiencing a huge increase in the no. of houses. The town really needs a bigger supermarket – NOT TESCO! There is no choice in surrounding towns – Honiton, Seaton, Chard has a small Sainsburys. Give us some choice! My shopping comes from internet so no money is spent in the town on our workers; this is due to the lack of choice. |
| **121** | Traffic calming up all of Musbury Road to the bypass. The traffic gets faster and faster and the volume increases year on year. We have no pavements so very dangerous to walk into town. |
| **122** | Too much time has been spent already on objectives for the town. It is about time something practical is put into practice. Remove market square parking a priority. |
| **123** | The centre of Axminster should be more pedestrian safe and friendly. Only limited, essential traffic should be allowed through the centre. The narrow pavement and road on the corner of Martins Newsagent is an accident waiting to happen. At the moment it is so dangerous for wheelchairs, invalid/child buggies. |
| **124** | It is important to maintain the originality of the town when making changes!! |
| **125** | Why do bike riders not use bike lane on Trafalgar Way and insist on using road. What a waste of money |
| **126** | Current infrastructure cannot accommodate the increased population |
| **127** | Many of us are not at all happy about the plans to make the crossroads at Hunters Lodge less of a safety hazard! |
| **128** | Better bus links with East Devon and Somerset eg No 4 (Devon) and No 30 (Somerset). No more building on green field sites. |
| **129** | Please prevent container lorries coming through the town and squeezing through past the Primary School. These roads are not large lorry routes. No more large housing estates without new schools and surgery. |
| **130** | There is a large mix of new housing available and plenty of schools. The big priority for Axminster is the North/South relief road. We cannot go on with such a high level of HGVs coming through such a small town centre. It is dangerous. |
| **131** | Good lunch |
| **132** | A north/south relief road is well overdue, and needed sooner rather than later! |
| **133** | More public outside seats. Better signage in town centre. |
| **134** | Not worth voting for. |
| **135** | Unless the relief road is built then all of the above will be pointless |
| **136** | In the 13 years I have lived here all the above have deteriorated under present councils. The quality of the town has also deteriorated. The only hope for Axminster is to get the North/South by-pass built and to elect a brand new council (local and district) |
| **137** | Afraid you should have done most of this 20 years ago. Building all over the place with not enough schools, medical services already overstretched. I am not sure that lorry drivers will use proposed by-pass seems to be in the wrong place with bottle neck at Weycroft |
| **138** | Only local people offered affordable housing first |
| **139** | Concerned at the amount of new housing being built and how surgery, schools, etc are going to cope with so many more people moving to Axminster. Thank you |
| **140** | Lawsons façade – for many it is their first sight of Axminster – is a disgrace. People consider Axminster a dump because of this. Please take this seriously. Axminster would change dramatically. First impressions are very important. |
| **141** | Don’t offer a “range” of schools and colleges – just majorly improve the ones currently here! A few “High Street” shops and food chains would be nice too – nt just old people live here! Maybe this is why there are so many druggie kids etc here! |
| **142** | To achieve an “excellent infrastructure and facilities serving the needs of the local community” the availability of high speed broadband and 4G data is essential.To provide adequate drainage along lanes/roads to safeguard properties from flooding. |
| **143** | 3. Market Axminster as a unique centre for “green” holidays. Axminster has facilities to offer car-free holidays with its train and bus services and (cycle hire) and ace to Jurassic coast, countless walks and cycling opportunities.4. Bring into occupancy all empty properties. A commitment to energy and low carbon alternatives – solar panels on homes and farm and commercial buildings. Small wind turbines. |
| **144** | I hope it all comes true. |
| **145** | Knock down the George Hotel and make it a roundabout to marry the other shop with the other or put a sign up to say what shops there are here. Drains need cleaning. |
| **146** | I do hope a lot of these ideas are implemented before 2031, or else I won’t be here to enjoy them!! |
| **147** | These are so bland no-one could disagree. How/where are these to be achieved? There is nothing at present that these objectives can be met |
| **148** | The most important thing is the north/south relief road without which none of the other objectives can be achieved |
| **149** | Do something about awful pavement so many of us have falls. We need somewhere for youngsters to “hang out” ie skate park and youth centre. Do something about The George, have a cinema |
| **150** | It would be difficult to disagree with any of these objectives, but I wonder how it will all be paid for |
| **151** | Axminster is fast becoming an urban sprawl, over development destroying our green spaces/wildlife habitat. Surely we do not need any more new homes. |
| **152** | Agree with relief road but not to infill with extensive housing developments |
| **153** | We need an enforceable speed restriction and a size limit. My home is in Coombe Lane which is very narrow – my door opens onto the street – so each time I use my front door I risk life and limb because drivers use it as a rat run to avoid the congested town centre – especially in the mornings and mornings are when it is at its busiest in Coombe Lane with parents and children going to the schools very nearby. Please do something about this before there is a fatality. The lane is not only used by cars that go too fast but also by large lorries and tractors. Thank you for reading this. |
| **154** | This is a dream. At the speed worked around here it will never happen. Could we have a monthly report? |
| **155** | 3 North/South relief road – should be carried in one phase, not several sections on years of housing development |
| **156** | Please consider adding: To take positive steps to protect and enhance the network of local footpaths, providing new links where possible which encourage walking over car use. |
| **157** | The results of this survey will not help you choose between different and competing objectives. You should repeat asking which objectives are more important than others – say on a scale of 1 to 10. |
| **158** | Create residential parking permit areas for Musbury Road, Boxfield Road, King Edward Road, Alexandra Road and Widepost Lane. |
| **159** | The most important of these objectives by far is the first in group 3 ie N/S relief road and ?? traffic blight is the principal spoiler for most of the other objectives. |
| **160** | Keep our hospital at all costs. |
| **161** | All houses being built on the Chard Road on both side is the wrong side of Axminster because of surface water due to thundery weather will flood North St and bottom of Castle Hill. |
| **162** | Sincerely hope that the town centre objective is activated ASAP. Lorries going through the town centre is horrendous and dangerous.New shops needed in the centre. Not ending up with lots of charity shops. Apart from market day every other day from 1.00pm is like a ghost town. Buildings vacant for many years! |
| **163** | No more new houses. Need another doctors surgery. Need another dentist. |
| **164** | In spite of local shopholders’ objection allow in (Mole Avon area) Poundland etc. |
| **165** | What area is this to cover? |
| **166** | More to help older people to stay in their homes. Not to make older people live in flats with no private outside space. As we get fed up of sitting indoors on fine days. |
| **167** | NO MORE HOUSES PLZ |
| **168** | Axminster hasn’t the facilities to cope with any more housing projects. Use brown land for small housing projects and use empty houses. Ban lorries going through Axminster before someone is killed. Prevent building on valuable farm land. |
| **169** | The key has to be the infrastructure to support the population we already have!! Doctors Schools Parking Roads |
| **170** | The environment around Axminster isn’t particularly attractive due to the filth and litter all over the town and beyond |
| **171** | How about sorting the traffic flow through the town before building more houses.More trees to be planted to help make the town more attractive. |
| **172** | We feel that all these vision/objectives are the unwritten expectations of our elected representatives. As usual the detail f how these will be addressed/costed is the most important issue. |
| **173** | No more housing required on green field sites – they are destroying the environment we wish to maintain. All the new estates being shoddy and ugly. |
| **174** | You are deluded if you think any of the above. South St will be downtown, fast food st, all shops gone, bar Tescos, it will be anything but a nice place to live. Bloody foreigners everywhere and Websters Garage/land sill unused. |
| **175** | What a shame that you have used “buzz” words in this document like “Vibrant” and “Diverse”. This makes it all sound so insincere. Some of the vision/objectives sound rather vague. That is why there is a question mark by them. If “ …..exciting retail and residential ….” Means knocking down attractive old buildings and putting up in its place modern ugly buildings then I do not support it. If “To deliver a mix of housing ….” Means building more Council house then we disagree. |
| **176** | Please no more/not too many houses. There will be too many! |
| **177** | Axminster needs a relief road starting in the vicinity of Weycroft Railway Bridge and running towards Kilmington. The the 19th century railway engineers could cope with the flood plain then so should the 21st. |
| **178** | More efforts to reopen hospital beds in Axminster Hospital please! |
| **179** | I agree to a relief road. I do not want it to be built behind Phillips Court. It should go behind Millwey and join up with Lyme Road. I do not agree with an “inner relief road”. |
| **180** | Sounds good on paper – time will tell! *1.2 and 5.4* I think we’ve already missed out here I’m afraid but we could plant trees!! |
| **181** | North/South relief road to take the large lorries out of the town, before there is a fatal accident. |
| **182** | Essentially we feel priority is required for North/South relief road and to provide a good mix of housing with affordable homes in keeping with our market town architecture. Building of more homes will require the back-up of good medical and educational facilities. |
| **183** | Nobody could disagree with any of these objectives. What do they mean? They look wonderful (if rather general) on paper. How much has it cost to get this far? Was it worth it? Didn’t you know all this before you started? This questionnaire looks like a box ticking requirement from somewhere “above”. |
| **184** | The children desperately need somewhere to play especially their skateboards. How about the new space next to Lawleys and their end shop with a door not on the road but round the side for their milk bar? They are our future. |
| **185** | The current building developments appear to have large amounts of tarmac and block paving but little car parking. Also no provision appears to be made for the large numbers of recycling bins/boxes households need. I have noticed new developments where dustbins are at the front of the house – smelly and unhealthy. |
| **186** | The objectives are what everyone wants for our town and hopefully the money will be there to help to achieve them. |
| **187** | The most important thing is to sort out traffic congestion in town centre. Many days it is gridlocked. |
| **188** | I would like to see the town centre pedestrianised with a ring road for traffic. |
| **189** | I would be so nice to see the George pub opened. It would be nice to have more local jobs. It would really be nice to get some of these council house people to tidy and respect their gardens. It doesn’t take a lot of effort!!! |
| **190** | Totally agree with all your proposals. Axminster is a lovely friendly town and this will enhance what we already have. Good luck. |
| **191** | Make the A roads such as the A35 a safe place to drive eg traffic lights at Raymonds Hill. |
| **192** | Difficult to disagree with any of the objectives but, as regards 1 above we are surrounded by enormous areas of beautiful green countryside and having green spaces within the town is perhaps unnecessary. If Stoney Lane widening/diversion of lorries up the hill is not considered then any NS relief road would be best constructed from above the bridge on the Chard Rd down over the flood plain to join the A35 west of the town. The flood plain could still be protected and respected. |
| **193** | Objectives need timings against them as they need to be coordinated and staged ie infrastructure needs to be in place before housing.Vast majority of objectives could apply to any town. Need more Axminster specific objectives. |
| **194** | These objectives are admirable – however are “overlapping” – important to prioritise the most important which are also achievable. |
| **195** | North-South relief road is vital!! Plus a delivery only policy on heavy vehicles in town.Resident only parking in Alexandra Road and Musbury Road. |
| **196** | Restrict any more solar farms. Keep green spaces green. |
| **197** | But where do older people who have retired go. You put in 1-bed flats with no garden only outside space is 4 bins and washing lines. |
| **198** | Housing: agreed but number of houses needs to be limited and appropriate to geographic limitationsEconomy: Agreed but too many businesses will overpower the townInfrastructure: Needs to be high on the agenda before the town develops |
| **199** | Axminster has a good community spirit which it would be a shame to lose in increased numbers. A balance of population and interests as well as ages required. |
| **200** | a) This is a great opportunity to insist on more dynamic landscaping within both residential and infrastructure development – to be undertaken by developers (condition of planning consent?)b) Don’t lose the quirkiness of the existing town layout/stylec) See attached newspaper cutting  |
| **201** | Hurry up! By-pass is long overdueWhy has car park taken so long?Is Council fit for purpose? Need change of old “wood” far too much “old boys club” who are threatened by newcomers. |
| **202** | The traffic situation is out of control. New buildings without parking is crazy. The air is going to be polluted if too much building is allowed – we all need to breathe! Axminster today is so different to the lovely town it was when I moved here. Don’t spoil it even more. |
| **203** | The road traffic – Lyme Road – is a very busy main road. A relief road is very much needed. However downhill to town centre. Residents are very aware HGV problems. In a north/south relief road – you need to look at centre town parking – ban it. It causes untold dangerous problems. HGVs need to be banned and a town relief road should be put on list from outside Axminster Chard Road towards Kilmington to main road. All main building supply shops are on Kilmington Chard Road.I have lived since 1997 in Axminster. It was a real joy – clean – no longer as streets are unkept. HGV are now 40 tons and have increased 100% over last 10 years. Build road – more cars! People – infrastructure? Where is it? You will end up with a town – small and masses of problems. I have seen this up and down the country. |
| **204** | Curtail building on green field sites – do not spoil environment. Improve infrastructure prior to more residential accommodation being built. More facilities needed – shops/doctor/dentist/youth centres/employment opps before Axminster becomes another dormitory town for Exeter/London |
| **205** | Delighted to read that Goulds are the new owners of Trinity House, that Websters Garage will be a car park soon. Now to the future? Beds back in our local hospital priority PLEASE |
| **206** | The people of Axminster don’t feel listened to – our hospital situ has proved this. We can only hope our lovely “little” town won’t be ruined but it “will be” as it gets larger and less locals are here! |
| **207** | Axminster is a small town it can never be a Honiton or Bridport so don’t try. No to building on green field sites. |
| **208** | Axminster is a quiet genteel market town nestling in beautiful countryside. Why the obsession to grow it into a larger, faceless community which is totally unsustainable. Larger town = more crime and anti-social behaviour which I do not want. Where will the money come from for this new super town? |
| **209** | Enhancing the town is essential. Also a bypass through as current traffic flow is dangerous (ie big lorries). We do not currently have the infrastructure to support all the new houses that keep being built. |
| **210** | 1. Lovely if new pedestrian/green routes could have hard surfaces which don’t become muddy/slippery in wet weather.2. A path from the bottom of Castle Hill to the Kilmington road would add to leisure provision and be great for helping visitors see local natural beauty and spend longer in the town.3. A big relaxing park would be nice! |
| **211** | Before Websters car park is covered in tarmac and white lines consider trees, flower beds or peripheral shrubs so it will be visually enhancing. |
| **212** | Having allowed massive residential development we must now support this I every way to become a vibrant and prosperous town like – Honiton, Bridport, Chard, Tiverton etc and manage this in progressive manner not with a small town or village mentality. |
| **213** | 1. Axminster is a caring town because of the old St Marys Hospital2. We hope for this but we must not allow developers and so called planners to ruin our town |
| **214** | The biggest issue is heavy traffic through the town centre and what is to be done with the George Hotel. |
| **215** | Do the “powers that be” consider that the houses being built all around the town are solving the housing crisis? Govt./local authorities “targets” are pointless if the housing is in the wrong place for young families. |
| **216** | I’ve had to move 3 times in 4 years. I’m moving again in January. All within the Chard-Axminster area. I can’t drive (visual problems). I am a carer for a family member, who finds it difficult to travel by bus. There needs to be more affordable housing but with sensible sized gardens and shops in villages, with smaller community buses (with sensible prices) for travel for disadvantaged people. |
| **217** | Not too many national brands and to restrict the shop front displays so they do not alter the atmosphere and look of Axminster.Whatever we do it must improve Axminster but not destroy its unique character. |
| **218** | Excess housing, costly, few jobs to bring increase population. Infrastructure seriously “??” if houses to be filled. Why “done deal” with Cloakham/carpets/pension land and no to Persimmon and included bypass. 1000 houses quota put forward for Axminster approx. 3 years ago – must have been reached with Cloakham – no more not necessary. An inner relief road proposed surreptitiously – need to take excess traffic out of town – bypass completely to achieve objectives. |
| **219** | Improve recycling in town and refuse collections. Cardboard should be recycled. The best way is to use 1 bin for landfill and 1 for all other recycling to be sorted by workers. Need to retain the sall bin for food waste (see Oxfordshire model) |
| **220** | This town needs to have big name shops such as Saltrock/FatFace/New Look etc etc and a shop we can go and buy a TV or fridge etc etc or just go on as we are and let this town die. |
| **221** | *1.*3 No national brands eg Fat Face/Seasalt/W H Smith/Costa Coffee. Champion what Axminster has: Trinity House, River Cottage, Axminster Tools, Axminster Carpets. |
| **222** | 1. Very very important provide affordable homes for local people2. A must *(3.1)* before somebody gets killed. Ring Road North/South to ease the flow of traffic in and around Axminster |
| **223** | Please do not build any more houses. Ensure no more new houses are bought by city Councils outside Devon. No more homes should be built until schools, doctors, dentist etc are able to cope with extra people. Please leave Axminster alone it is already a much less pleasant place than 10 years ago. |
| **224** | Too many new houses. Stop the building until further development of work. |