

1. Abbreviations

List of abbreviations used in this Design Statement

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CA	Conservation Area
CHC	Chichester Harbour Conservancy
EDS	Emsworth Design Statement
ERA	Emsworth Residents Association
HBC	Havant Borough Council
HBDWLP	Havant Borough District-Wide Local Plan 2001-11
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LDF	Local Design Framework
LP	Local Plan
NEF	New Economics Foundation
PRDF	Public Realm Design Framework
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage System
WUDC	Warblington Urban District Council

3. Survey of Residents by Questionnaire

A questionnaire was published in the January 2004 issue of the Emsworth Residents Association Newsletter 'The EMS'. It was also administered by interview at various places in the town centre and around the streets. Copies were also distributed in the public library and several other places.

1,065 people responded i.e. over 20% of all households. Some questions were closed but there was also opportunities for free text responses. The comments expressed were many and varied, with over three quarters of people adding their own comments and suggestions.

Age ranges

Ages	Under 18	18 - 30	31 – 55	over 55
Responses to the survey	3.73%	2.90%	23.81%	69.57%
Population in 2001, Census	19.21%	8.09%	32.98%	39.72%

All areas of Emsworth were well represented as indicated by the postcodes given.

Summary of answers to closed questions in survey :

Harbour and Waterfront: Of all the features listed in Question 1, the harbour and waterfront scored highest with over 96% rating it 'highly' or 'very highly'.

Green Emsworth: Nature conservation is also very important to the people of Emsworth with 87% rating it highly in question one. This was reinforced in question two where 66% 'strongly agreed', and a further 26% 'agreed', with the categorical statement "Nature conservation areas and other open spaces in and around Emsworth must be preserved at all costs".

Distinct from other towns and villages: Over 94% consider the Emsworth gaps ("Green Belt") 'important' or 'very important'.

Great support for local shops : The local shops are also seen to be very important by more than 89% of the respondents and the same number claim to use them often.

Other facilities: Residents were more divided on other facilities in Emsworth. Most thought that the number and size of community buildings was satisfactory but a significant minority felt the existing facilities should be better. 43% felt there were insufficient 'recreational facilities', 37% thought they were adequate and large number (20%) didn't know.

2. References

- Chichester Harbour AONB Landscape Character Assessment (June 05)
- Chichester Harbour AONB Management Plan 2004 - 2009
- Havant Borough District-Wide Local Plan 2001-2011
- Havant Borough Townscape, Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment (February 2007)
- Havant Public Realm Design Framework, Roger Evans Assoc's (June 05)
- SE Plan March 2006

The ages of people who replied are as shown below. When compared with the age ranges of the population taken from the 2001 census, even allowing for Emsworth's strong bias towards an older population, it is still evident that far fewer people in the younger age groups completed the survey. The over 55's are six times more likely to have responded than the under 30's. Of the contributors to the survey, we received about 70 inputs from the two local primary schools (under 12's).

Among those who thought the facilities inadequate, there was a strong demand for a sports centre (almost one sixth of those replying) and many others wrote in requests for other facilities such as a swimming pool (56 specific requests), basketball courts, an arts centre, a cinema and recreational facilities for young people.

Churches: A very high proportion (21%) use churches 'often', which is about three times the national average of only 8%.

Housing: Nearly 70% feel that starter homes are needed and a massive 96% feel that any building should be by infilling rather than on 'green field' sites.

Types and sizes of buildings: This issue produced a varied response whereas most, (70% or more), strongly agreed that buildings should fit in with their surroundings with regard to scale, style and materials. People were less emphatic about a variety of heights and shapes and 25% were opposed to buildings being adventurous in design. When saying what they would like to protect, one resident commented that they would like to maintain, "The balance of development with no one style of development overpowering the village."

Detailed results for types and sizes of buildings

Q7 "It is important that new buildings and alterations (whether for housing, commercial or industrial use) should:-

	1 Strongly Agree	2 Agree	3 Neutral	4 Disagree	5 Strongly Disagree
1. respect the scale of the surrounding buildings	81.75%	14.03%	3.80%	0.42%	0.00%
2. be in keeping with the style of the neighbouring buildings	70.80%	19.43%	7.88%	1.47%	0.42%
3. use materials in keeping with the area	70.36%	20.04%	7.81%	1.69%	0.11%
4. maintain a variety of heights and shapes	47.48%	29.43%	16.97%	4.08%	2.04%
5. be adventurous in design whilst maintaining "feel and atmosphere."	24.27%	22.75%	27.52%	13.87%	11.59%

Parking: is probably the most talked about and contentious issue in Emsworth. Around 54% felt that current facilities needed improving whilst 42% thought it was 'satisfactory' and only 4% didn't know. Nearly everybody has an opinion but there is no agreement. There were 254 written comments on parking in the survey, to be analysed later, the highest number on any single issue.

Traffic congestion and speed: was the second largest issue raised in the written replies to Question 14 with 126 responses. However, opinion on traffic calming (speed bumps, etc.) was divided with only about a third in favour and around a fifth having no opinion.

Pedestrian crossings: were not specifically asked about in the closed questions but a surprising number commented on them in the open questions. 45 people remarked that they wanted the brick paved 'preferred crossing places' in the Square converted into proper pedestrian or zebra crossings.

Facilities for young people and educational facilities: Over 60% felt that facilities for young people needed improving and there were over 100 written comments on the topic to be analysed. However, views on formal educational facilities were less clear-cut with a fairly even three-way split between 'needing improving', 'satisfactory' and 'don't know'.

Other improvements: thought to be needed were those for the disabled (54%), footpaths and cycle-ways (56%) and road surfaces (57%). So it seems that money spent on these will be appreciated.

Employment: In answer to the question about encouraging various types of local employment, only relatively small numbers were in favour of any of them. Craft workshops were the most popular with 30% of respondents in favour. But 30% didn't want any of the listed categories.

4. Exhibition

A one and a half day exhibition held in February 2005 was the vehicle to display the initial draft and get feed-back. On arrival visitors were provided with a form, clipboard and pen; they could indicate general agreement or disagreement with each of the sections as well as provide more detailed comments. Almost 400 people visited and the majority spent between 45 minutes and an hour absorbing the information and completing the form. The majority of comments indicated general agreement; there was some disagreement (1.5%). Detailed comments related to accuracy, omissions and suggested additions.

5. Ratification

July 2007 a final draft was made available via the Library and the web. Ratification and feedback was sought from Emsworth's residents and business people; over 240 responses were received.

6. HBC Review and Revision

As explained in 'Scope of EDS', page iii, changes in the planning environment meant that some of the content had to be removed. In addition, the 'Design Statements' needed to be re-expressed as 'Design Considerations'. HBC staff provided significant help in this revision process.