Melksham Town Council

Priority for People

Results of a survey in Melksham community area June-July 2021

TOWNSWORK | 2021

How can we make it easier and safer for people, vehicles and goods to move within Melksham town and surrounding villages, in line with the needs of the climate emergency?

This was the question headlining the survey run across the town and surrounding villages in June and July this year. It was the first stage in **Priority for People** – a Melksham Town Council initiative to develop a movement and mobility strategy in response to the climate emergency.

It follows the adoption by the Town Council early in 2020 of "*Melksham Town 2020-2036: a review of the opportunities, challenges and drivers facing Melksham Town during the period of the next Local Plan*".

The purpose of the survey has been to bring together a snapshot of how people in the town and villages move around – as well as what concerns and ideas they have around the subject.

The report that follows provides much useful data. It is not definitive in the sense that it was a sample survey, but it will be of help in the next stages of Priority for People.

At a workshop in early October a range of local people and specialists will explore options for change. A public meeting will follow and then a second, smaller, workshop will pull together the results into a set of agendas for action.

We know that some of the ideas will be relatively easy to implement. Others will require more work and funding. Crucially, we will ensure that actions fit with wider strategic ideas and policies – for example initiatives being explored by Wiltshire Council to expand public transport provision across the county.

The results of **Priority for People** will also provide helpful and important input to the Neighbourhood Plan Review, which is about to begin, and which will be the most important planning document for the town over the next 15 years.

We are grateful to those who took the trouble to respond to the survey. Every one of the hundreds and hundreds of comments and viewpoints is being read and valued. This document will shortly be available for download at **www.priorityforpeople.org** and we welcome further comments as the process evolves.

Linda Roberts

Town Clerk, Melksham Town Council

14 September 2021.

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

Melksham Town: 44.30%

Melksham Without: 40.51%

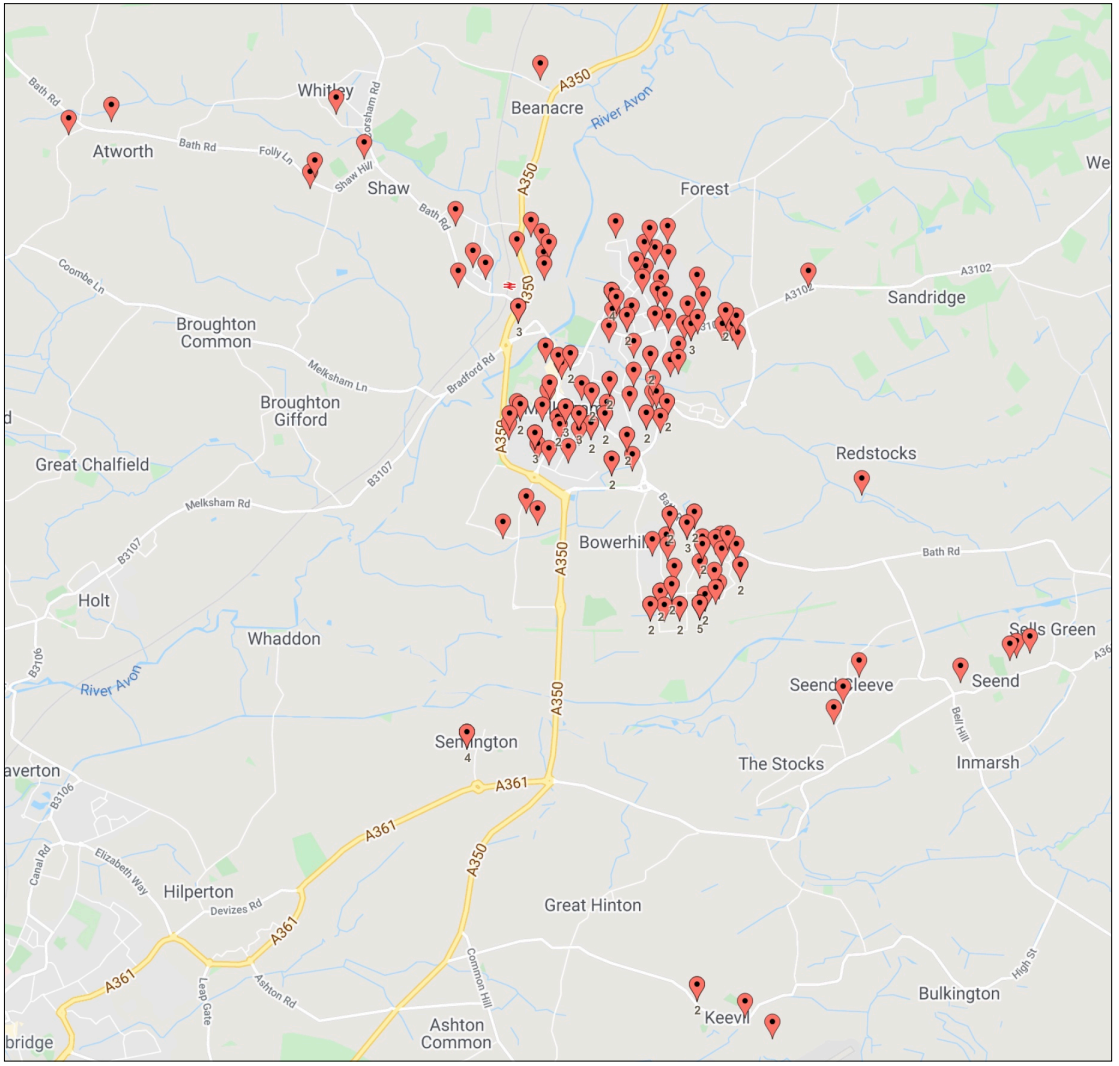
Other local parishes: 9.28%

Elsewhere: 5.91%

HOW MANY IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD? 2.58*

* Average

Total responses: 229



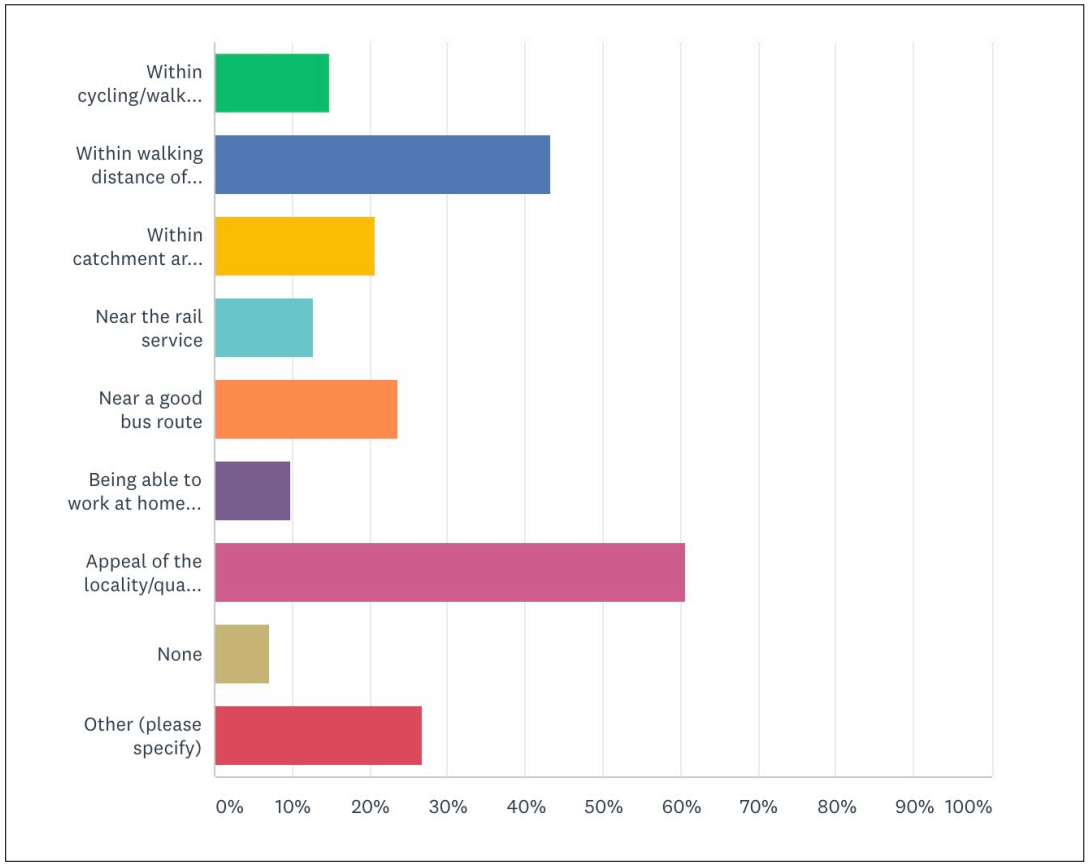
VEHICLES IN THE HOUSEHOLD

Petrol car	71%
Diesel car	50%
Hybrid car	8%
Electric car	7%
Motorbike	11%
Cycle	46%
Van/commercial vehicle	13%

Average number of vehicles per household: 1.46

Total responses: 231

FACTORS IN DECIDING WHERE TO LIVE



Total responses: 236

Comments:

- A rural village location with lots of countryside and local walks was very important to me, along with a strong community spirit. I was prepared to drive up 20 miles (30 to 40 minutes) to get to work for the correct location. Semington fitted my requirements perfectly.
- Moved here with husbands job.
- When we originally offered on the cottage, the bus services were considerably better than they are now, to both Devizes and Trowbridge, now they are extremely haphazard so really not worth having, which is a shame now we are getting older and will not be able to drive a car. Maybe more frequent and smaller buses would be helpful.
- We have lived in Seend for over 30 years so our reasons for buying here were originally relating to work.
- The farm we live on.
- Wanting to live in a semi-rural community with easy access to open countryside with footpaths. Local amenities including train station, buses and medical facilities.
- House prices.
- We moved to Bowerhill 30+ years ago to be out of the Town Centre but not to far to be able to walk to the centre.
- House prices when we bought.
- Distance to Corsham.
- Car parking.
- Canal and countryside walks.
- Lack of light, sound and particulate solution.
- Size of house and garden.
- Affordability of housing.
- House prices.

FACTORS IN DECIDING WHERE TO LIVE …

Comments …

- We have lived in the area for the last 40 years, in 3 homes within a short distance of each other. Moving from a 2 bed terrace to a 3 bed terrace then a 3 bed semi detached home. The area choose us as 40 years ago we could only get a mortgage on a new home in this area (Blackmore Road) the area close to a shop, bus routes and a 10/15 minute walk into town.
- Within an hour drive from work.
- Affordability and within hours drive to both mine and partner's workplaces at the time. Reasonably priced housing with a good garden and close to the amenities of the town.
- Proximity to woodlands and green spaces.
- Proximity to my clinic.
- Value for money. Worked in Bath.
- Within commuting distance of Bristol and Swindon.
- Availability of medical facilities ie doctors surgery, dentists.
- Within walking distance to a wood and canal.
- Affordable housing.
- Living near the canal.
- Close to the countryside.
- Lots of green space as we are a very active family.
- Quiet and not near many roads.
- Family close by.
- Close to countryside and beauty of local landscape.
- Countryside on your doorstep.
- Not near the A350.

Comments …

- The canal & woodland walks and countryside. Spaces like the brag picnic area.
- Countryside. Safe community for our children especially our child with special needs.
- What house was available and in the right price range.
- Near to family.
- Affordability.
- Within a welcoming community.
- RAF posting.
- Suitable property.
- Cost of property.
- Within easy access to arterial road routes north-south and east-west.
- Near family members.
- When I bought my house 28 yrs ago. Walking distance of the Town for the kids to catch buses.

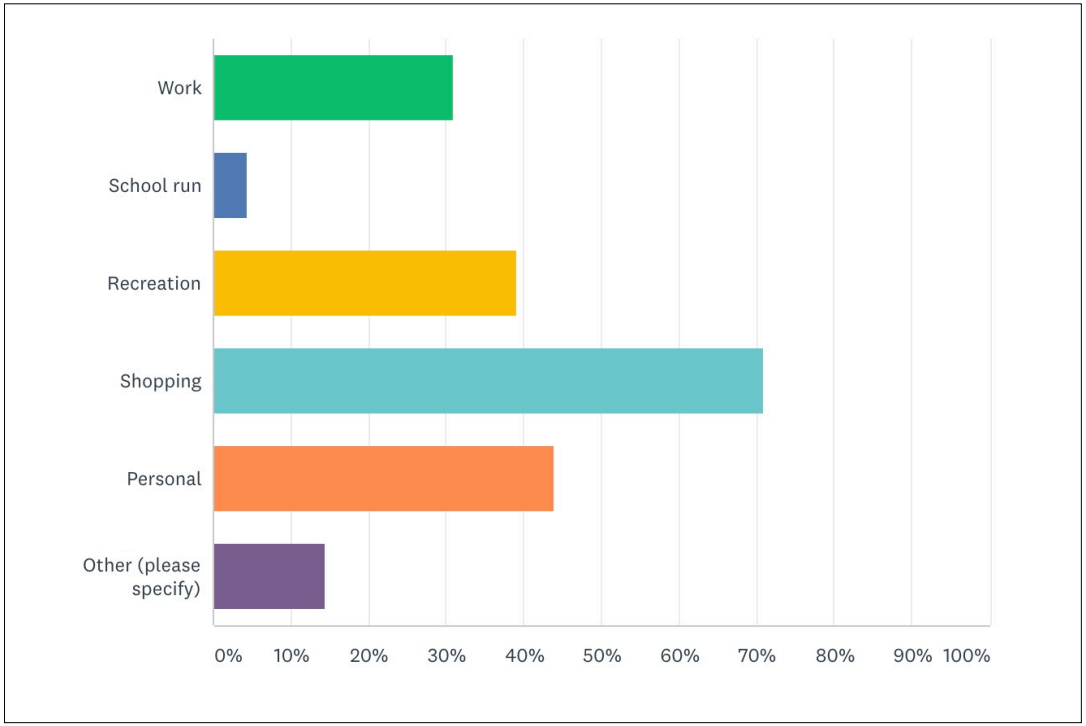
HOW OFTEN DO YOU TRAVEL *THROUGH* MELKSHAM TOWN?

Visits per weekday	
0	12%
1	15%
2	18%
3	16%
4	10%
5	16%
Other	13%

Visits per weekend	
0	15%
1	51%
2	23%
3	1%
4	5%
Other	4%

Total responses: 193

WHY DO YOU TRAVEL THROUGH MELKSHAM TOWN (PRE-COVID)



Total responses: 207

Comments:

- We do not travel through Melksham town.
- For work en route to Bristol.
- To get to other locations. e.g. Holt.
- Access to onward travel.
- To get to the other side.
- Doctors chemist
- Cycling sessions/training predominantly.
- Don't as no decent shops which can actually purchase stuff in, so go to Chippenham instead.
- Work
- Visiting daughter in Corsham.
- Never.
- Doctors.
- Volunteering.
- To go to supermarket.
- Hardly go through.
- Shopping.
- Volunteering.
- Volunteering.
- I use a mobility scooter.
- Dog walking Shurnhold, dog groomer Corsham, to get to RUH.
- Walking the dog.
- To get to another town, or go to the railway station.
- Walking route for exercise.

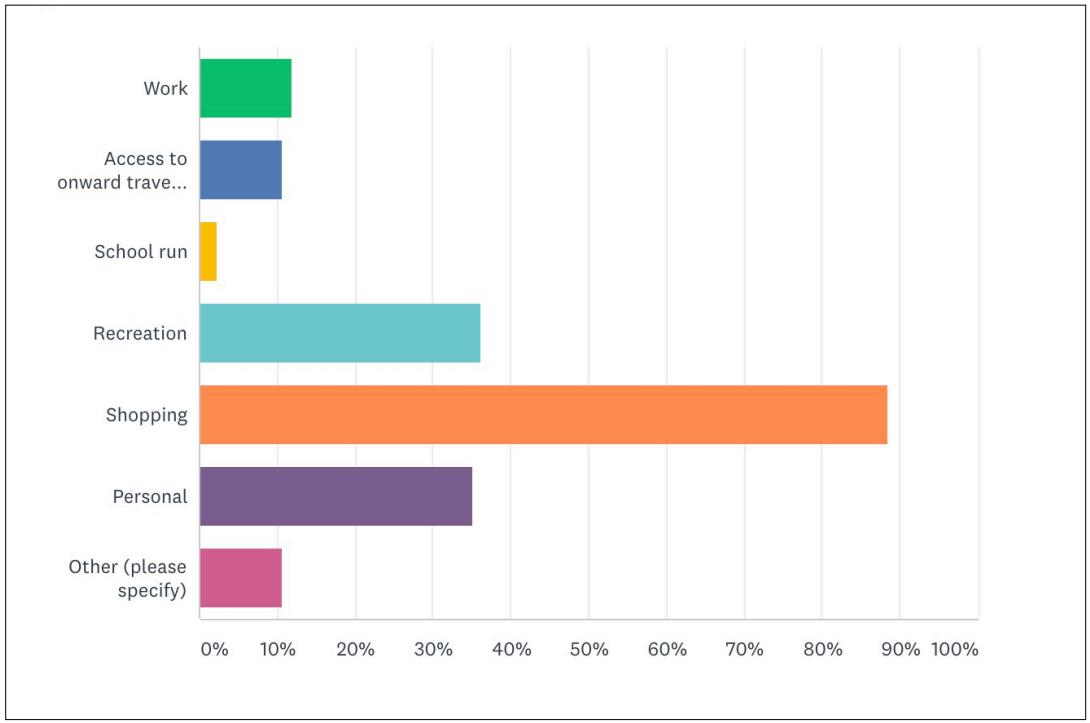
HOW OFTEN DO YOU TRAVEL *INTO* MELKSHAM TOWN?

Visits per weekday	
0	8%
1	30%
2	23%
3	14%
4	8%
5	11%
Other	6%

Visits per weekend	
0	15%
1	58%
2	20%
3	1%
4	3%
Other	3%

Total responses: 188

WHY DO YOU TRAVEL INTO MELKSHAM TOWN (PRE-COVID)

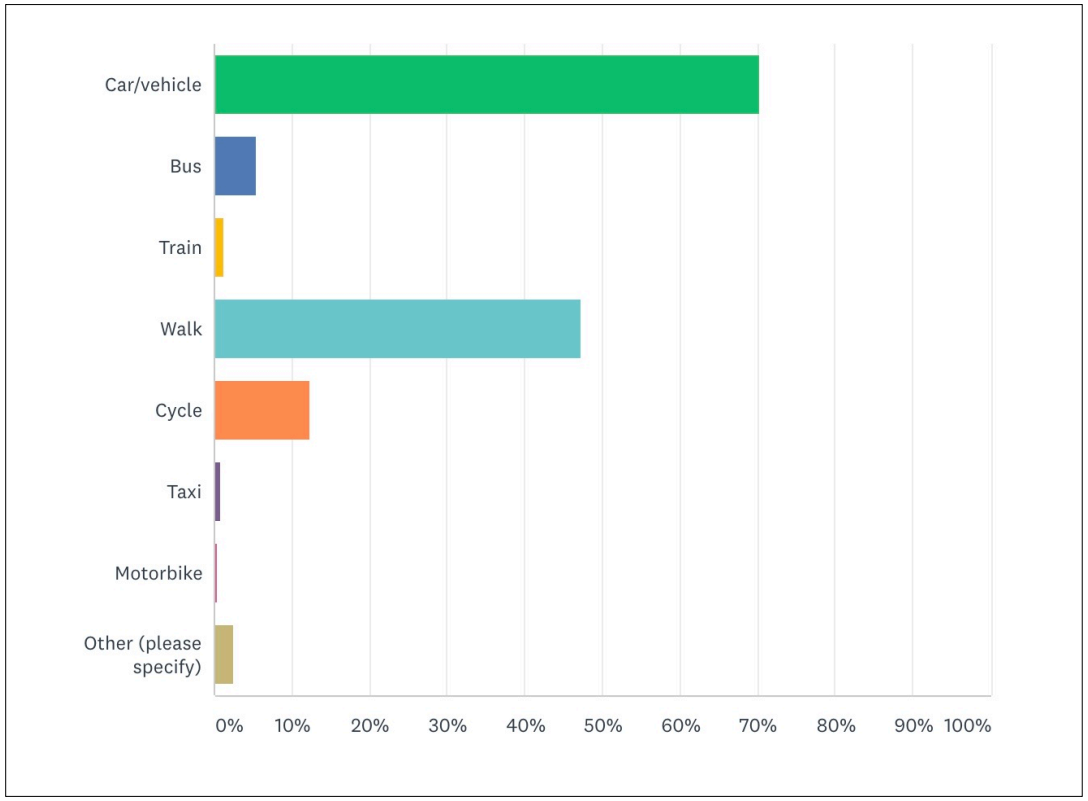


Comments:

- The frequency will increase when feel more comfortable to use the sports centre when less Covid around. If the Railway Station was improved, maybe more inclined to use Melksham railway station rather than Trowbridge or Westbury. I have only used it once when coming from London and picked up from Melksham Railway Station.
- Visit relatives.
- Enjoy walking into Town and home, about 4 mile round trip.
- Visit relatives.
- Volunteering.
- I don't.
- I don't.
- Dog walking.
- Food outlets and Barbour's.
- Dentist.
- Volunteering.
- Charging my electric car at the station and walking through town.
- Going to church.
- Voluntary work.
- Volunteering.
- Volunteering.
- To visit cafe.
- Walking the dog.
- Appointments (would this be "personal"?).
- Food shopping only, as generally the other shops don't suit my needs.

Total responses: 227

HOW DO YOU TRAVEL MOST OFTEN INTO MELKSHAM TOWN (PRE-COVID)

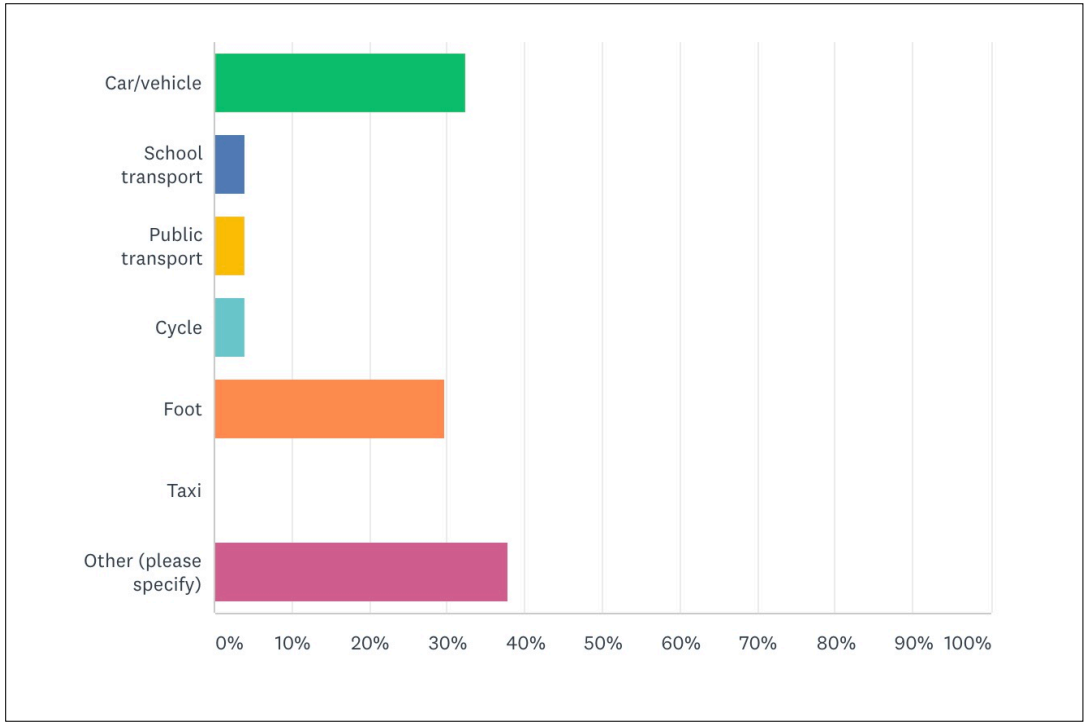


Comments:

- Mobility scooter.
- Scooter.

Total responses: 235

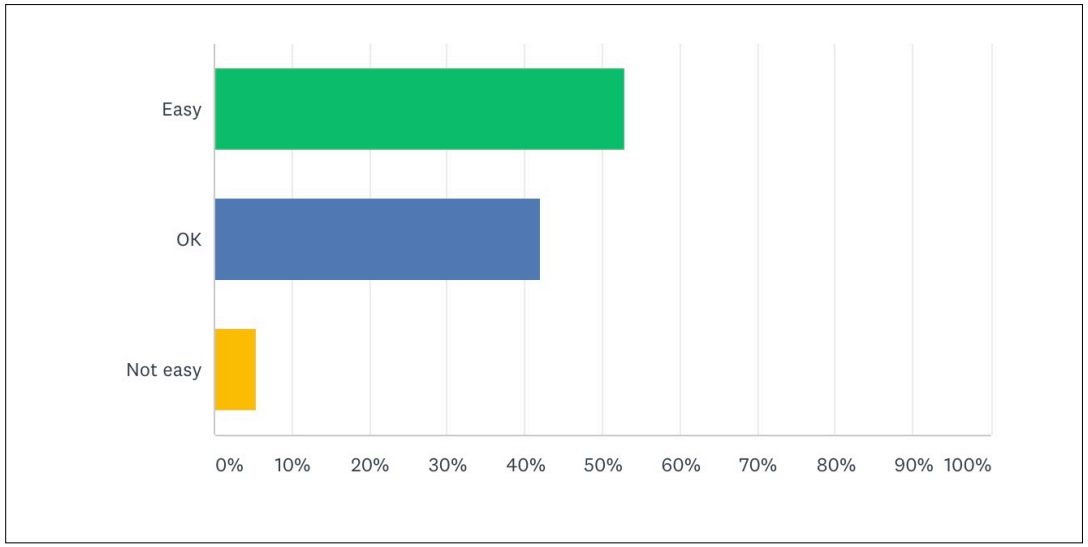
IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN AT SCHOOL, HOW DO THEY GET THERE? (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

Total responses: 74

IS ACCESS TO SHOPS IN THE TOWN CENTRE … (PRE-COVID)



Total responses: 236

Comments:

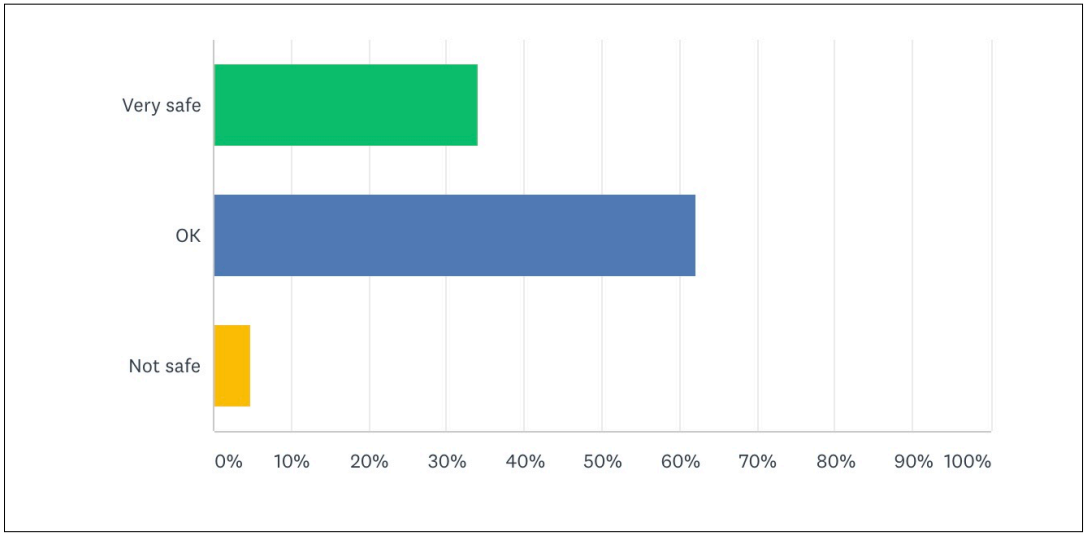
- Roundabout between Sainsbury's and Waitrose takes too much traffic to work smoothly and safely.
- Good access to useful free car parking which encouraged shopping locally. Enjoy walking up one side of high street and round and down other side.
- I have problems with my balance. I use a stick and struggle with slopes, steps and uneven surfaces.
- Nothing worth going into town for really. Hair cut. Dentist.
- Lack of easy parking for High Street/Bath Road
- Better parking accessibility would be great.
- Barely any shops to use. Hairdressers, estate agents, take-outs, charity shops. That's all Melksham is.
- The route to the shops is easy, but the amount of roundabouts, pedestrian crossings and traffic lights along The High Street and Bank Street is totally out of proportion for the length of the roads!
- Short term free parking is important. Paying for a 10-minute shop would/did encourage me to go out of town.
- Poor parking in the town centre.
- Lack of free parking makes the town much more unattractive than, say, Trowbridge
- Lack of free parking.
- Would like free parking for an hour returned.
- No free car parking.
- If driving to town having to pay for parking is off-putting for the shops that are available, I would go to other towns where free parking is available.

IS ACCESS TO SHOPS IN THE TOWN CENTRE … (PRE-COVID)

Comments …

- Pavements could be safer for pedestrians - problems with cyclists and illegal scooters. Easy access with plenty of parking.
- When cycling, concerned about bike theft due to lack of safe storage.
- There were insufficient disabled parking areas before the pandemic. Particular outside the town hall and at the other end of town. Some more seats would help older people.
- Too much traffic.
- Plenty on safe walking routes, driving is pretty direct with loads of parking.
- I don't like paying to park to use one shop so I tend to venture elsewhere where there is either free parking (ie, B&M) or more than one shop I need.

DO YOU FIND WALKING AROUND THE TOWN CENTRE (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

- I have a problem walking
- The high pavement has always seemed a hazard. A railing would help.
- High kerb outside Specsavers is potentially dangerous, however it is part of the historical character of the high street. Lots of crossing places for pedestrians at traffic lights makes crossing the road safe.
- Feel intimidated by groups of children/young adults since mobility problems
- Too many cyclists using the pavement rather than the road
- Speed is a massive issue
- Don't walk through town at night.
- In the day time. Night time is generally ok. Also I like the convenience of subway but sometimes people congregate which unnerves me, especially at night.
- Do not feel safe in the evening - there are no camera's in the town centre which makes us feel very vulnerable
- Very safe during the day. Rarely there after dark. Not sure I'd feel as comfortable.
- Depends on time of day. I wouldn't go to town after 6pm any longer
- Unsafe due to bicycles on pavements
- Find bicycles on pavements along with scooters annoying and very dangerous as they have no bells or horn to let you know they are coming up behind you.
- Too many cyclists on pavement, town often congested with traffic, hard to cross road to bus stops
- Church Lane is dangerous Sandridge Road is busy.
- The high pavement is dangerous

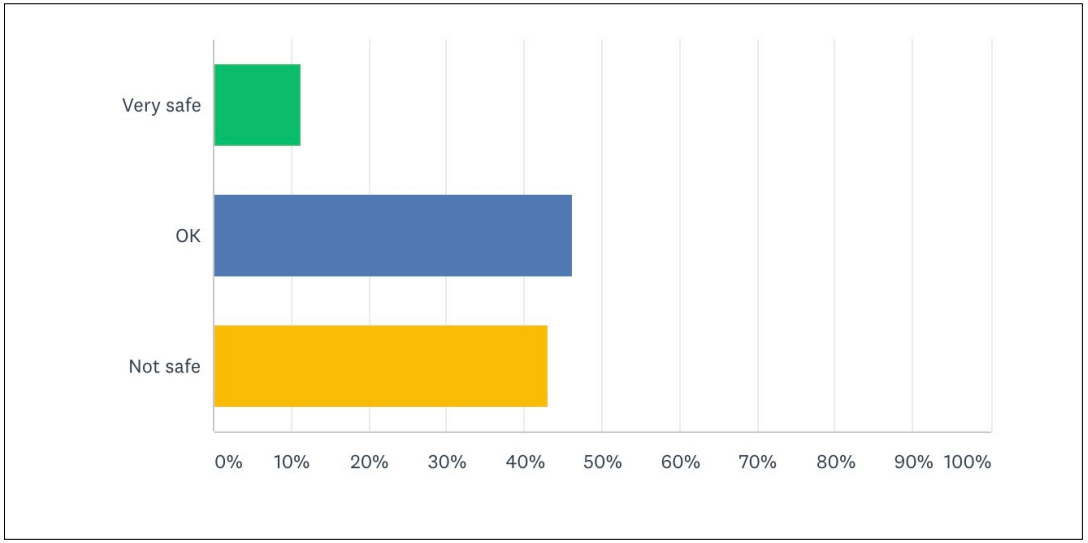
Total responses: 232

DO YOU FIND WALKING AROUND THE TOWN CENTRE (PRE-COVID) …

Comments …

- Uneven pavements/surfaces. Having to walk past loud and noisy pubs
- During the day, don't go in at night very often.
- Alley way next to Iceland and area in front is not inviting...
- Not so safe during the evening
- Pavements can be a problem - some uneven, busy with cyclists and mobility scooters Dangerous roundabout waitrose/Sainsbury's junction if walking
- Too much traffic. I have to get off my bike in the town as there are no cycle paths through the town.
- Some narrow pathways, uneven paths, street furniture blocking, not disable friendly.

DO YOU FIND CYCLING AROUND THE TOWN CENTRE (PRE-COVID)



Total responses: 132

Comments:

- I would like to cycle into Melksham but it is not inviting because there are no designated cycle lanes.
- Don't tend to do it very often as cycling isn't very easy in the town or wider area.
- Not safe on the road but cycling on the pavement is safe although not for pedestrians. Too busy and not enough support for bikes.
- I'm pretty confident on my bike so I don't mind the traffic, but getting in to town or through town on the bike can be hairy on roads with a 60mph limit and HGVs.
- Never tried.
- Roads are not wide enough, need more shared pavement and dedicated cycle routes. Pavements should all be doubled in size throughout and across the town to enable safe cycling, scooters etc.
- I've never cycled around the town centre.
- I don't nor does husband he goes out of town to canal.
- I'm not very I confident to cycle on the roads
- Inconsiderate drivers not giving space. Cycle paths full of kids on scooters who don't give-way. As a cyclist your shouted at for using the roads or pavements!
- I don't do it - I go long way around.
- Cycling over town bridge feels ... with the railings, impossible to walk a cycle over and pass one (or a mobility scooter or pushchair) coming the other way, and road (A3012) busy, no cycle lane, traffic pinch point between railings, Cycling over Challeymead (bypass) bridge -no path / cycle lane / fast traffic close ro road edge. Issues are from the cycleways / paths at Farmer's Roundabout to paths at rear of Melksham Cemetery.
- Cycle to town but not in town!

DO YOU FIND CYCLING AROUND THE TOWN CENTRE (PRE-COVID) …

Comments …

- I don't cycle
- Lots of fast moving cars no where to safely lock a bike
- I'm very passionate about cycling and always opt to walk or cycle if I can. However, volume and speed of traffic concerns me considerably. Also, it often feels like motorised traffic nearly always has priority. There should be more safe places for people to cross roads when walking or cycling. There is only one pedestrian crossing on the whole length of Snoberry Lane which I feel is dreadful.
- Road layouts, state of, and infrstructure coupled with variable motor vehicle driver behaviours not conducive to cycling for those who ate young, more elderly, or of low confidence.
- It's not great. It would feel safer if the speed limit was reduced to 20mph through the town centre, or throughout Melksham.
- It's culturally more acceptable to cycle on the pavement in Melksham than on the road. This is insane because it makes the road dangerous for bikes, and the pavement dangerous to pedestrians.
- Some routes are OK, e.g. cycle route from Bath Road to the railway station, but other routes, such as navigating the Farmers roundabout are definitely not cycle friendly. Clackers Brook park between Ruskin Ave and Queensway is a good example of where shared paths for bikes and pedestrians works well, do to the multiple paths available and the low numbers passing through. The shared path on Eastern Way is also wide enough to usually accommodate multiple users. However, restricting cycling to designated areas is not the answer, better education to share the roads with all users is required.
- Traffic goes too fast and the roundabouts are confusing to cyclists. We need cycle lanes from one end of the town to the other.
- Too much traffic travelling through the town.
- If I cycled, I would not think it would be safe.

IF DRIVING INTO THE TOWN CENTRE, WHERE DO YOU PARK?

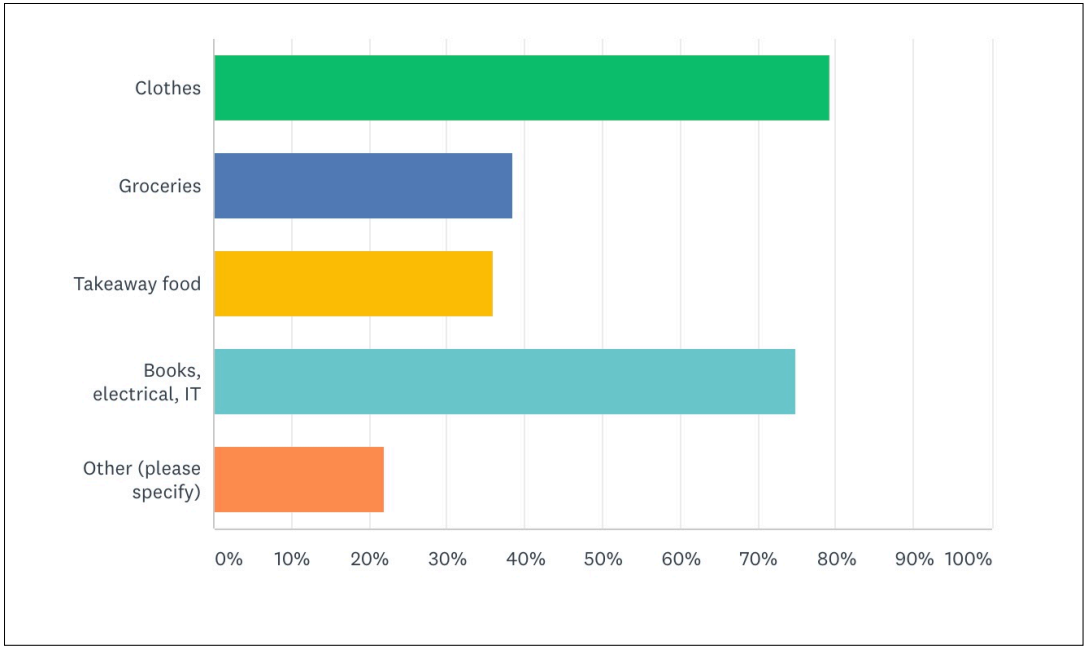
Public paying car park	46%
Supermarket/free car park	90%
On-street parking	15%

Total responses: 184

Comments:

- Short stay free parking needed, enforced by CCTV/ANPR.
- Helpful if one-hour free parking was offered in all public car parks.
- There is always parking available. It's very easy to park.
- Riverside school parking at weekends to facilitate walking into town.
- I live basically in town centre so i park on my flats designated area.
- Nothing really in town worth paying to park for.
- Poor access and doesn't feel safe when walking under cover by Iceland.
- Should be free. Not safe for bikes.
- I park nearest where I need to go, but this is not always possible. More free parking would encourage me to shop in Melksham rather than elsewhere – at the moment I don't really work.
- We are members of the the Liberal Club and park in their car park.
- The number of people who use Melksham went down dramatically since they started charging for parking, not good for the shops. Greedy council.
- Parking is more than adequate.
- Would attract more if all car parks had one hour free without need for coupon.
- Far too expensive.
- Need more free parking. It puts me off going into town.
- Lack of free parking.
- Bring back the hour free parking.
- The first hour should be free.
- Quite expensive for amount of shops, does not encourage people to visit.
- Always walk into town.

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE? WHAT DO YOU PURCHASE?



Total responses: 228

Comments:

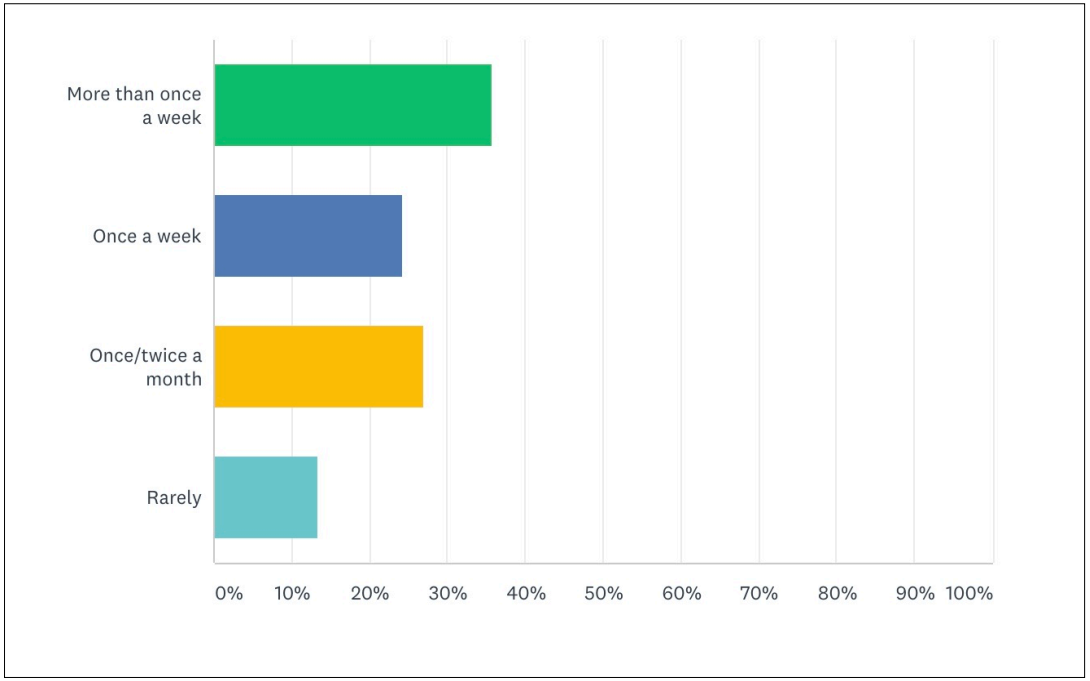
- DIY and hardware.
- Boots items, vitamins, children's toys, bedding. Everything else I need unless I need it immediately. Due to Covid haven't wanted to mix with people, but also getting fed up going out shopping and not finding what I want, and then finding it on the internet
- Things for work.
- Garden products.
- Eco friendly items. Craft supplies.
- Everything I can.
- Pretty much everything now due to work.
- E-bay.
- Most of what I need is online or in other towns – it's one reason I haven't moved back yet – shopping variety is very poor.
- Shoes, hardware, gifts.
- Bird, hedgehog food.
- DIY stuff.
- Pet food, shoes, clothes all the things you can no longer get in Melksham due to too many eateries,
- Shop online but click and collect!
- Cosmetics.
- Toys.
- DIY items and some pet things.
- Gusto only.
- Soft water salt.
- Records. Garden bits, dog food.

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE? WHAT DO YOU PURCHASE? …

Comments …

- Craft items. Other misc items.
- Tools, gifts, white goods, services.
- Only because of Covid always went to a shop before.
- Household goods.
- Gifts mainly.
- Have to order most things online due to not being available in local shops.
- Household items.
- Car spares. Caravan parts.
- Games.
- Nothing in Melksham other than groceries. Everything else is ordered online.
- Auto parts.
- Gifts.
- Various special offers on QVC.
- Gym equipment, cookware, garden furniture.
- Household goods and gifts.
- Haberdashery, fabric, shoes.
- Dog and cat food.
- Gifts, household goods.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU HAVE AN ONLINE DELIVERY TO YOUR HOUSE?



Comments:

Total responses: 223

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO SHOP MORE IN MELKSHAM AND LESS ONLINE?

Comments …

- Greater choice of products from retail giants.
- A good balance of independent shops, cafes and eateries, not just national chains and bargain shops.
- Better range of shops.
- Better range of shops.
- More diverse shops including clothes and shoe retailer, book shop.
- Free parking
- Unsure, it is so easy to shop on line. Covid has forced people to shop on line so somehow the shopping centres need to entice people back. Need to make "live" shopping a good experience. Shops need to provide a good variety of items, so people do not need to go online. Maybe Town Centres should persuade the government to tax online shopping.
- A better selection of shops.
- The things I buy online are specialist and obscure, I get them online because other suppliers on the industrial estate can't get a hold of them.
- Fully support click and collect at Sainsbury's and whilst collecting, will shop in High Street for any extras. Like the independent shops in Melksham e.g. newsagents which sell cards etc. toy shop, pharmacies. Try to shop locally when possible.
- Clothes shop, shoe shop, book shop.
- Wider range of retail outlets.
- Wider range of shops.
- Melksham needs a clothes shop, a shoe shop, a book shop.
- Can't see it happening !!

Total responses: 191

Comments …

- Since Covid. Not much. Found I can get everything delivered without going to the shops. More diverse shops.
- Less hours working.
- Wider better range and selection of shops. Too many food take-aways, hairdressers and less eyesores like the soon to be opened where Peacocks were located.
- Shoe shops; men's & women's outfitters.
- Not sure.
- It's so easy online and it's delivered. Better range of shops, department store would be good. Decent clothes shop, shoe shop, less hairdressers, less estate agents less takeaway shops, more decent restaurants and nice gift shops.
- General hardware store. Decent clothes shop. Decent shoe shop.
- More selection of shops and a better more pedestrian shopping area.
- Better choice of shops. I'd like to see independent artisan shops such as delis selling local cheese etc.
- More local produce.
- Better variety of shops with mixed price ranges.
- More shops.
- Nothing, we try to shop as much as possible locally.
- Proper shops. Wilkinsons, clothes shops etc
- Ladies/men's clothes shop. Vegetable shop (reasonably priced).
- Better variety of shops. More free – and easy – parking.
- A wider range of shops, clothing, shoes TKMaxx type of shop I would be in there all the time! Useful hardware type of shop, Wilko type thing.
- Availability of clothes shops, shoe shops, DIY and electrical.

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO SHOP MORE IN MELKSHAM AND LESS ONLINE?

Comments …

- A Wilko, TK Maxx or other successful/sustainable budget retail options.
- Open an Amazon click and collect shop.
- A difficult one. We try to shop in Melksham whenever we need something that is available in Melksham. So a shop that sold EVERYTHING would be the answer. But it isn't going to happen in Melksham.
- I do most of my shopping in Melksham.
- The right type of shops.
- A pet shop, a shoe shop, a clothes shop that was not for people over 80.
- Never,
- No Covid restrictions, especially masks.
- Selection of shops, local and national. Melksham has a sad lacking in specialty shops. No more takeaways, funeral , hairdressing or estate agents.
- Wider range of shops that cater to what we want. There is nowhere to buy small electrical items or DIY items in Melksham town. You either have to go to Leekes or to the trade estate in Bowerhill or to Trowbridge to access Curry's etc
- More variety of shops
- Some decent shops and not charity shops, hairdressers and takeaways. Back in the 1960s we had a great selection of shops right through the town, now there is nothing to make people go into town for clothing etc.
- Having better shops. The options for clothing and recreational things is ever so limited. We just have multiple food places.
- More clothes stores, shoe shops.
- A fruit and veg shop – bakers – Plastic free shop.

Comments …

- A shopping outlet which had bigger brand named shops selling clothes, trainers without having to travel to Swindon or Bath.
- Better shops! Melksham is mainly filled with hairdressers, charity shops and takeaways!Need something bigger such as The Range where no other local towns have!
- More independent shops.
- Bigger selection and of retail.
- Ease of access. Diversity of shops.
- Better choice of shops at reasonable prices. Better facilities – parking, toilets.
- Better shops.
- More variety would be good.
- A complete revamp of shopping centre with a process to balance the types of shops that are opened in the town.
- A better range of shops. I do use Pet's Corner just outside of town, but the prices are very high. I've explained to the staff that I want to support them, but not at any cost (example: Plaque-off dog supplement is about £19 at Pet's Corner and £9.99 on Amazon). Free parking – or at least free for the first two hours. That would make a huge difference. Support for small independent shops (eg. tax breaks) to encourage more diversity in town.
- Once a fortnight.
- Better shop variety e.g higher quality butchers, fruit and veg etc. I currently go to Devizes for these.
- Better shops.
- Free parking.
- More shops.

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO SHOP MORE IN MELKSHAM AND LESS ONLINE?

Comments …

- Nothing greatly.
- Bookshop. Better parking at top of town.
- Free parking. Better quality of shops.
- Clothes shop, shoe shop. More variety of shops. Cheaper or free parking.
- The high Street is beyond hope. A few clicks on line and the item is delivered next day.
- Free parking and a good range of shops. A shoe shop. Clothing shops.
- Better range of shops, less food and hairdressers.
- More choice, a hardware shop, decent clothes & footwear shop for all ages.
- More choice and variety of shops.
- Decent shops at reasonable prices. It's disappointing for a town this size that there is now nowhere to buy new clothing apart from the supermarkets.
- Prices of goods and variety of shops including hardware shops, clothes and electrical appliances.
- A clothes shop, mens womens and children. Enlarge the market with more stalls.
- Greater variety of shops.
- Nothing. I don't buy clothes or shoes in Melksham as no shops, but don't buy on line either. I go to other towns with more choice and cheaper parking. I get food and toiletries in Melksham.
- More time in the day.
- Some shops.
- Never.

Comments …

- Greater variety of shops.
- Have more variety of shops...Melksham consists of takeaway, hairdressers and very little else !
- COVID becoming less of an issue. Still try to avoid unnecessary visits to most shops. Easier, more convivial environment and access. Selection of shops with good stock and better opening times.
- Not a great deal in precise – most of the online orders are for items that would be unlikely for anyone to stock in good range in Melksham town.
- Mid-range clothes and underwear shops.
- Free car parking. More shops.
- Electrical goods and clothes.
- Better flow of traffic through the town. Particularly Sainsbury's mini roundabout, causes a lot of congestion and poor driving decisions from people not giving way correctly.
- More time, competitive prices, number of options.
- Clothes shops. DIY shops. Shoe shops.
- Better variety of shops.
- increased selection of shops – specifically clothing, books, alterations. The crux of the problem from a visitor perspective is the lack of good eateries, drinkeries, bakeries, and the like.
- No clothes or shoe shops in town. Factory shop ok but a fair walk if in town centre with shopping.
- Twilight opening of shops (5-7pm); more comprehensive retail offer.
- Convenient click and collect pickup points near the station.
- Variety.

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO SHOP MORE IN MELKSHAM AND LESS ONLINE?

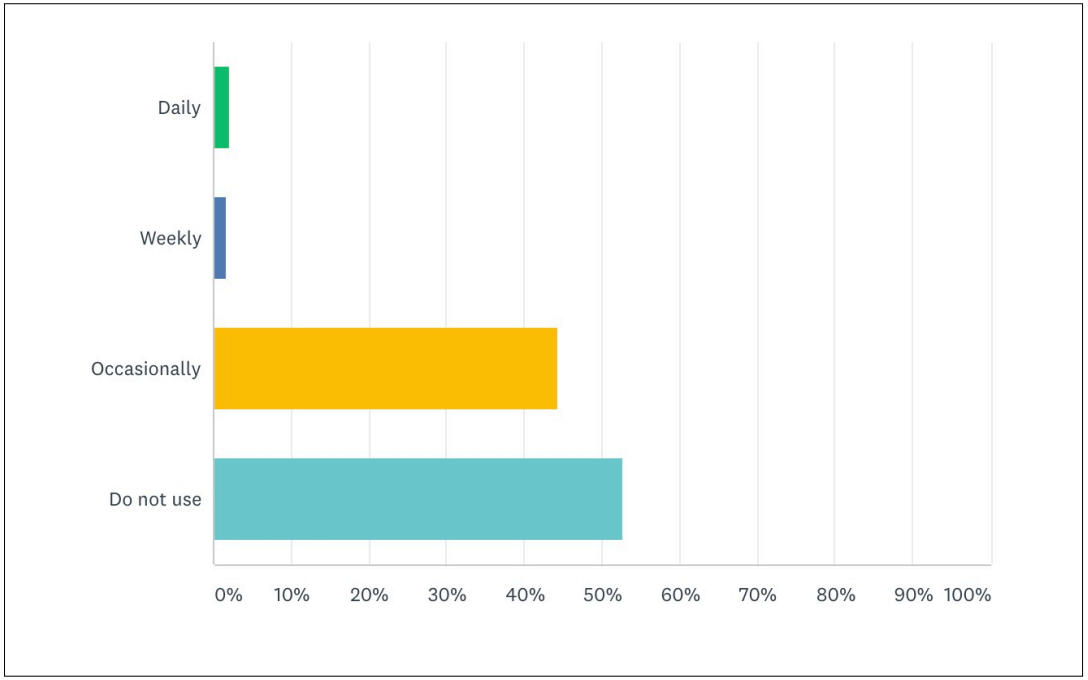
Comments …

- An independent book shop.
- The high street shouldn't try to compete with the likes of Amazon, but rather offer a different experience. I visit the butchers in town for example, as this shopping experience cannot be replicated by buying online.
- Variety of shops so that what I want to buy is available in town.
- To have access to a wide variety of shops for clothes, shoes, electrical goods, DIY.
- Bigger variety of shops, ie a book shop.
- As we are not a large conurbation, unlikely to have the choice to shop locally in national chains.
- Better variety of shops.
- Plus size clothes shop. Shoe shop 'Woolworths' ☹
- More useful shops.
- Better range of shops and more flexible opening hours. (More evening hours to attract me in after work.)
- I prefer to get my weeks shop delivered to my door, it saves having to stand in queues and carry heavy shopping bags. Dog and cat food comes from the Devizes pet shop, since Melksham's pet shop closed, and it is much easier to have delivered to our door.
- Cycle parking facilities. And traffic to slow down.
- More clothes shops and independent retailers that sell the products I am looking for for example electronics, books, clothes and shoes. We need less services industries no more hairdressers and gyms, less take aways.
- Better quality shops. Better gifts and greeting cards.
- Book shop. Shoe shop. Clothes shop now Primark gone very limited.

Comments …

- Better selection of shops. More of a reason to visit. Mens cheap clothes for.example?
- Amazon open a multi super store in the town centre. I can't see a future for retail high street : (
- Better/more free parking.
- A fruit and vegetable shop (not just once weekly market) and more zero waste shops & better/more charity / second hand shops. A lot of my online purchases are second hand or better zero waste products than are available here, but getting them transported to me isn't ideal!
- I'm not sure that is a relevant question any more. Life online has changed the way we shop. It would be impossible to have the range in town that you have online. Towns need to change and the public perception must as well.

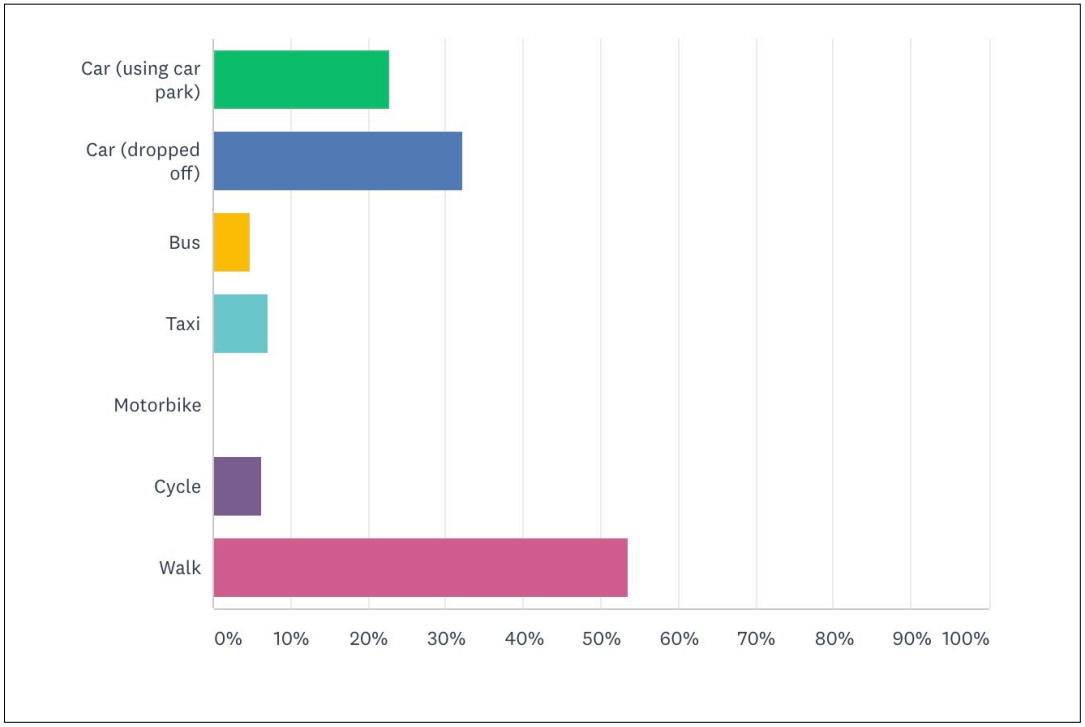
DO YOU USE MELKSHAM RAILWAY STATION? (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

Total responses: 235

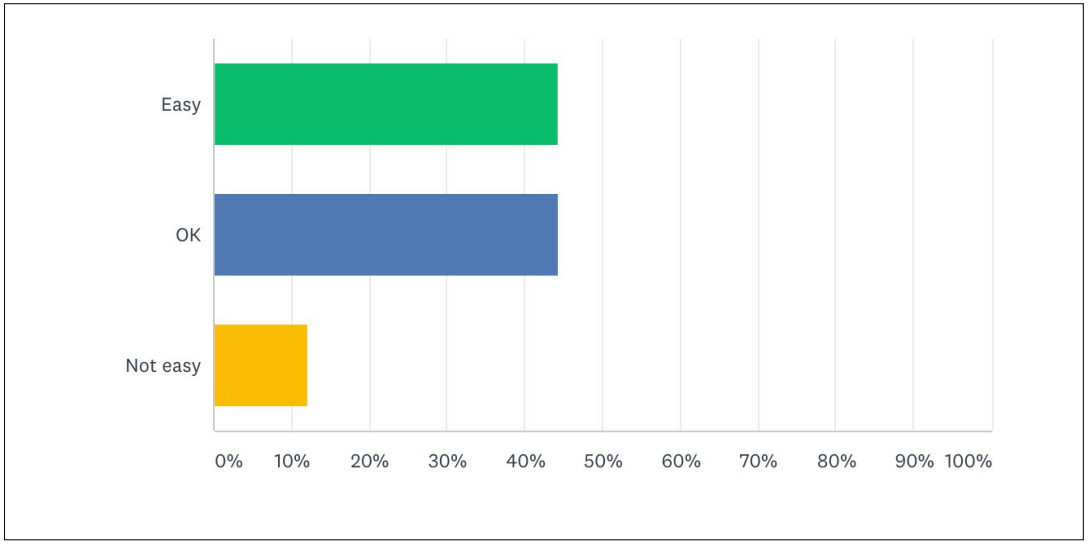
HOW DO YOU GET TO THE RAILWAY STATION? (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

Total responses: 127

DO YOU FIND ACCESS TO THE RAILWAY STATION… (PRE-COVID)



Total responses: 149

Comments:

- Not well sign posted. Would benefit from a bus.
- Better parking facilities and lower prices would be great.
- Signage poor. Route not very nice as soon as you cross the Avon bridge.
- Need to prioritise opening up access via Foundry Close.
- I wouldn't feel safe using the underpass.
- No bus stops close by not sure car parking will be big enough once vivid has finished.
- I used to drive and park at the station when it was free parking but now it is charged I do not bother to use station.
- I do not use the trains but have started doing occasional voluntary work at the Hub cafe there. I cycle but do not enjoy cycling across the town bridge as it often feels unsafe.
- See earlier comments over walking / cycling over Town Bridge and up Spa Road. If the town bus from Spa Road continued on to the station and arrived there within 20 minutes before the train calls, would use it. If it left the station for return - say - 10 minutes after the train arrives would also use it. These journeys would typically replace car drop offs. We no longer park at the station since the parking charge regime was introduced. There have been multiple incidents of people who thought they were correct being issues with penalty tickets, and if paying to park may as well use a station with a much more frequent service such as Chippenham or Westbury.
- It's generally good, but the cycle route isn't gritted during the winter and the underpass isn't swept of leaves often enough during November. I've come off my bike before due to ice. But very ugly - especially for those arriving in Melksham for the first time.
- It is hard to find, hard to cycle to and from. The cycle parking stand unit is not securely fastened to the ground and is cramped.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ACCESSING THE RAILWAY STATION ON FOOT BY USING THE UNDERPASS UNDER THE MAIN ROAD (A350)?

Comments …

- Fine.
- Did not know about it.
- Perfectly safe to do this.
- Unsure.
- I don't come from that direction.
- Always use it, ok.
- It is the best way to cross the main road. It is well lit, clean and I feel safe using it.
- No problem.
- Uneasy.
- No issues.
- It needs to be cleaned / revamped with better lighting, it does not feel safe and is not nice to look at.
- The underpass is a very safe and convenient way to get across the A350.
- No chance due to previous experience.
- I drive.
- Not safe at night.
- Have used train regularly in the past, felt ok about underpass during the day only. Wouldn't use at night.
- Not a problem during the day but in the evening find that youths sit there and I feel uncomfortable walking there.
- Fine. Not to sure in the dark though .A friend of mine was attacked in the subway.

Total responses: 117

Comments …

- Not applicable.
- Neither are fit for purpose. The station is cut off from the town and you feel like you are walking through an abandoned no mans land with smashed windows, barbed wire fences, graffiti, large groups hanging out in the underpass. A bridge would be a better, safer option and convert the disused manufacturing buildings on the avon tyres site on bath road to retail/leisure units.
- Very unsafe at all times.
- Never used it.
- Not keen.
- Too far to walk.
- Ok.
- No, bus stops not close to underpass.
- Not happy.
- Safe.
- It is the only route I would use.
- Not pleasant on your own.
- Fine, I don't mind the smell of drugs.
- Absolutely fine.
- If I was to use the railway, easy access.
- Not bothered.
- Fine.
- Do not like the underpass.
- It's okay.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ACCESSING THE RAILWAY STATION ON FOOT BY USING THE UNDERPASS UNDER THE MAIN ROAD (A350)? …

Comments …

- Threatening. If I were a lady walking alone I definitely wouldn't feel comfortable using it. Not safe at night.
- Ok day unsafe in the dark.
- Fine.
- Safe.
- Fine.
- Walk quickly through it.
- Ok.
- Not very happy that this is the only choice.
- Easy.
- Uncomfortable.
- Ok during day..
- Reminds of walking to school.
- This is one part of my walk I don't like, I do this section as quickly as possible, I don't feel comfortable when alone.
- Long way after walking from home.
- Happy to.
- Easy.
- Not overly keen walking on my own underneath.
- Ok in daylight.
- Not a problem, but possibly a bit intimidating for single women re pot-smoking youths.
- Do not like using it as it does not feel safe as a lone woman. No cameras.

Total responses: 117

Comments …

- OK / no issues, but understand that others may not be very happy with it.
- Unsafe.
- Unsafe.
- OK.
- Unsafe.
- Fine.
- Not keen on underpass depends on time of day!
- Okay but not sure great for all especially at night.
- OK.
- Good.
- Fine - but it's a dreadful mess - needs a whole rethink - art project maybe.
- Ok in daylight, taxi home from station if dark.
- No safety issues, but an attractive, overground route would be more appealing and attractive.
- Not very nice, and a long way round.
- Fine.
- Ok.
- OK, but not ideal.
- Ok as long as it is lit up if it's darker evening or night.
- It's okay. I used to attend The George Ward School so I am familiar with the route.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ACCESSING THE RAILWAY STATION ON FOOT BY USING THE UNDERPASS UNDER THE MAIN ROAD (A350)? …

Comments …

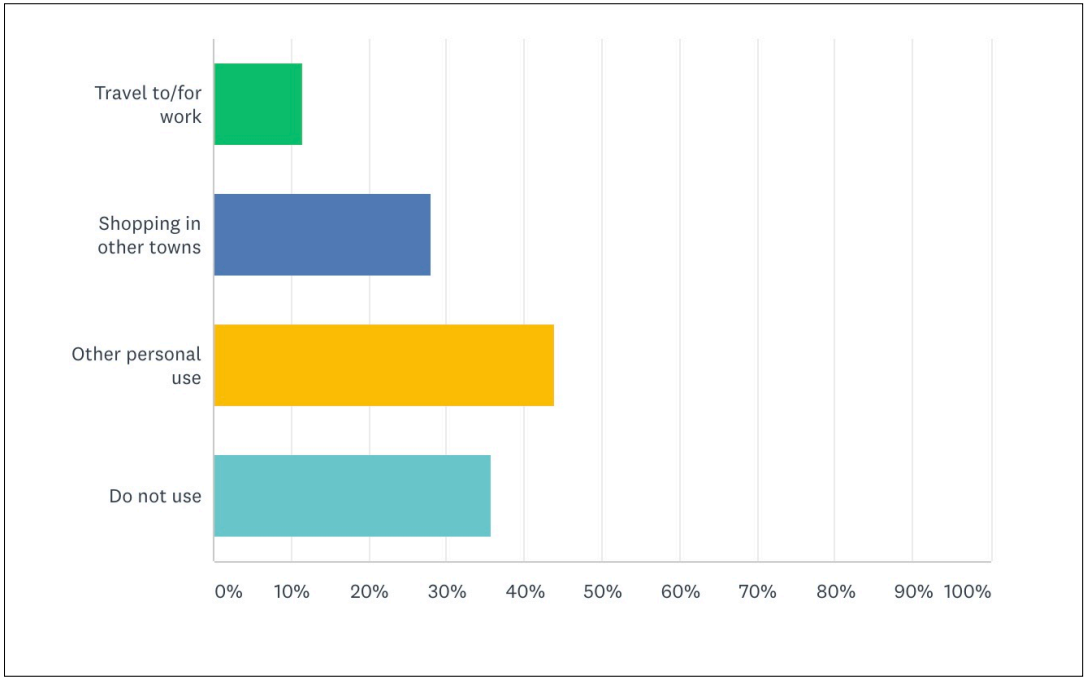
- Not after dark.
- Uneasy, isolated.
- Okay.
- Fine.
- Fine.
- For health reasons I wouldn't walk that far.
- A little hesitant due to the smell and concerns over safety.
- Ok.
- It's fine if there isn't a gathering, I like the graffiti and can be seen as art, however needs to be cleaner.
- Easy access, however I feel unsafe at night.
- Not safe with the current horrid crowd of teenagers that the police don't seem to do anything about. I would NEVER use the underpass.
- The underpass handy but is not very nice – always graffiti on the walls and sometimes has groups of young people congregating. Probably up to no harm but can unnerve pedestrians including me.
- The underpass is not very nice and very frightening to go through on my own.
- Ok during the day, would avoid at night.
- Depends where I'm coming from. And my health on the day.
- Fine.
- Uneasy as a woman.
- Ok, but have walking limitations.

Total responses: 117

Comments …

- Ok in daylight.
- Do not use.
- I don't like walking under the underpass. No issues.
- Definitely wouldn't!
- Not too safe in the evening.
- I don't like underpasses due to the fear of being robbed. I wish there was a better system in place.
- It's wouldn't feel safe at night, it's not clean. The graffiti makes it look scruffy. If it had a graffitied art design and better lighting it would look better and feel safer.
- Ok.
- No problem.
- Not safe.
- Already do - but perhaps would be concerned at night and take a different route.
- Pleased the underpass is there but always check for broken glass. It has been quite clean recently. Unsure how I would feel using it in the dark.
- Ok during the day, but would be wary using it on my own in the dark.
- Happy during daylight hours but would be extremely nervous using when it is dark.

WHY DO YOU USE THE RAILWAY STATION? (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

Total responses: 182

WHERE DO YOU TRAVEL TO ON THE RAILWAY MOST FREQUENTLY FROM

Swindon	26%
London	20%
Bath	19%
Chippenham	17%
Bristol	9%
Bath/Bristol	6%
Trowbridge	5%
Southampton	4%
Westbury	3%

Total responses: 101

WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THE RAILWAY MORE OFTEN? (PRE-COVID)

Comments …

- Service through to Bath.
- Safer access for walking/cycling. Also advertise the timetable locally.
- Cheaper tickets.
- Cheaper tickets.
- Cheaper fares.
- A nicer station. Good travel rates which match going to and Trowbridge and to and from Westbury. When I used Melksham not all trains stopped at Melksham, trains from Melksham to be more frequent.
- More frequent trains.
- more frequent trains.
- More trains.
- Free travel.
- Cheaper fares.
- Cheaper fares.
- cheaper fares.
- More trains to BoA / Bath
- More trains.
- Nothing - spent 40 + years using trains to London and London Transport.
- Cheaper tickets. Later evening trains.
- Increase in service.
- Direct line to Bath and Bristol.
- Free train pass.
- Cheaper prices.
- Better destinations.

Total responses: 139

Comments …

- More frequent trains. Later running ones. Cheaper prices.
- Time.
- Lower.
- Bristol – much better connection/commute times for Bristol, it is shameful that at peak times there is a 20-30 minute wait to connect to/ from Bristol.
- Redouble the line. Restore the link at Bradford Junction to give us direct trains to and from Bath again.
- Better links to London.
- More trains.
- Lower fares on the train. One person is cheaper than parking & petrol, for two people the car is more cost effective.
- More frequent trains allowing better choice to come back. Better connections to/from
- Bath/Bristol at Trowbridge/Chippenham.
- More destinations.
- Cheaper fares.
- Having more options time wise.
- Better access and better train service itself.
- Easier to get to.
- More regular trains.
- Cheaper train tickets.
- If there was easier connectivity to Bath.
- More services.
- More frequent, regular bus services to station.
- Cheaper fares.

WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THE RAILWAY MORE OFTEN? (PRE-COVID)

Comments …

- Obviously a good number of destinations is key, but also it's about remembering that the railway is an option. It's an expensive option, though, making using the car more appealing at the moment.
- Parking and more frequent services.
- Better destinations.
- More frequent services.
- Better service.
- More trains.
- More trains.
- Direct trains to Bristol and Bath. Better train times.
- More frequent services and cost.
- More trains.
- Extend the free parking so you can enjoy the cafe without worrying about putting more money on the car.
- Lower fares.
- Easier access.
- Cheaper fares.
- More routes available to surrounding areas.
- Ticket prices – discounts for travel at off peak times.
- Having to go somewhere that would take more time by bus. Also I am not comfortable about an unmanned station.
- More frequent trains.
- Fair prices.
- Significant fall in prices and massive increase in reliability.
- More frequent trains.
- Being able to cycle there safely.

Comments …

- Later trains to get back from London via Chippenham.
- Cheap trips to the sea.
- Return to free car parking.
- Easy access to Bath.
- More options.
- More trains better publicised.
- Cheaper fares and more direct routes.
- More frequent trains, later trains.
- Didn't know it existed! Better advertising.
- If the walk from Shaw to the Station felt safer, at present it is very unpleasant and the speeding lorries are intimidating.
- Not having to change trains.
- More trains and later train return from Bath on a Friday and Saturday night.
- More train availability going to bath and Swindon etc.
- If it went straight to Milton Keynes.
- Cheaper fares.
- Direct services to Bristol and Bath.
- Price & times of trains.
- More train routes.
- Increased service, reduced prices.
- More trains.
- More trains to Bath.

WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE THE RAILWAY MORE OFTEN? (PRE-COVID)

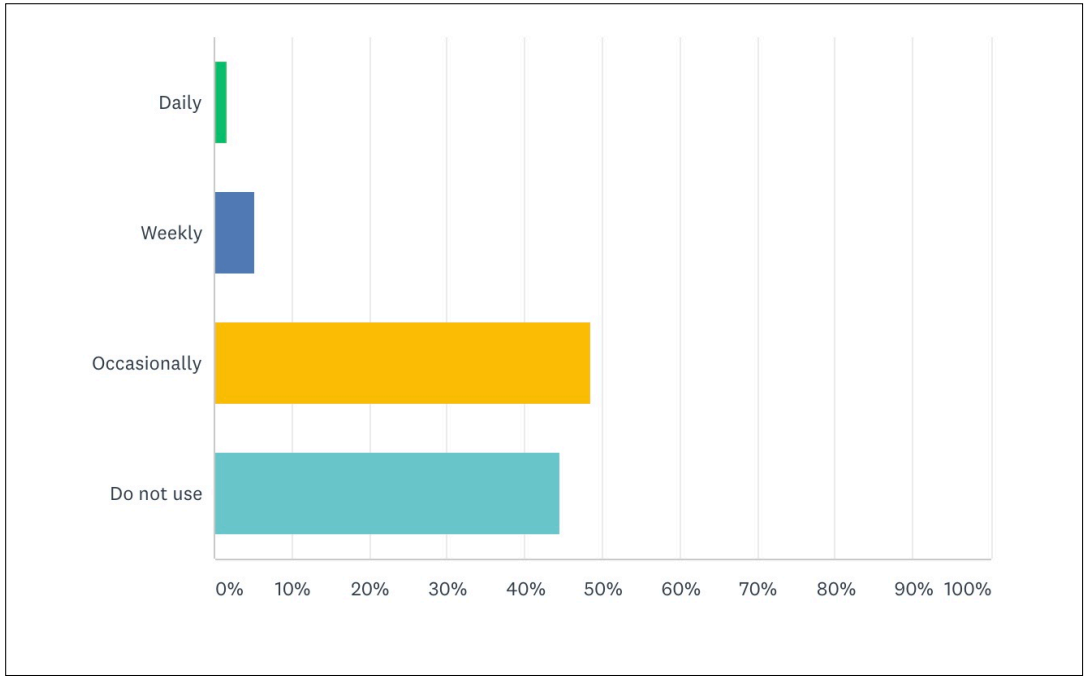
Comments …

- Will definitely use it more now that COVID is settling down, and feel safe knowing trains are regularly sanitised.
- Knowing more about the train times, destinations and ticket purchasing.
- I'm concerned about disability access and getting on a train with my folding scooter, so don't go.
- More trains to more locations and trains that worked better with commuter hours so I could leave the car at home and take it to work.
- A more direct route and cheaper fares.
- Better links to Chippenham coinciding with trains to/from Bath or London.
- Train choice wider destinations.
- Better information on destinations available and timings.
- Price & availability.
- I use as often as makes sense to my travel plans; I don't need encouragement.
- Better routes – ie more direct to Bath.
- More trains and being able to get to Bath without changing.
- More direct routes and times.
- More seating, nicer views (flowers, etc), easier access on trains (pram).
- Needs a ticket machine. I don't like getting on a train with no ticket. Needs more trains.
- If it was connected to Bath.
- Direct service connection with Bradford on Avon.
- More frequent.
- More services.

Comments …

- More frequent trains and extended timetable to later hours. Free parking!
- Better links and more regular service.
- More services and better connections.
- Better rail prices and more frequency.
- More services and cheaper fares.
- Integrated transport at both ends, so Swindon as well.
- More availability to Chippenham and London. Cheaper fares to London.
- Better options for direct travel.
- Running to bath/return during the evening.
- More trains, cheaper prices.
- More trains.
- More destinations from Melksham
- More local services
- Easy public transport from melksham without
- Nothing, not an option I would use
- More frequent trains
- Frequent trains. Would use more if connected to Bath.
- If the trains met up better to come back from Weymouth it can be nearly a two hour wait at Westbury meaning we have to drive to Westbury to get on. Also to get to Gatwick no train meet at Chippenham so have to drive to Chippenham to get on.
- Cheaper. More services to more places.
- Cheaper fares.

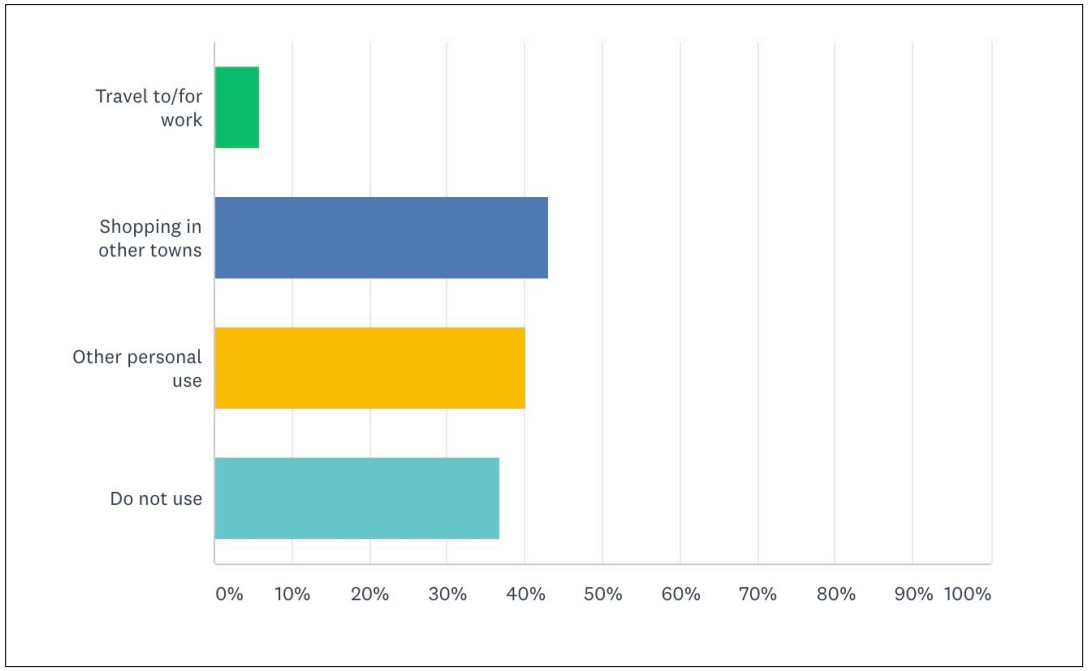
DO YOU USE BUS/COACH SERVICES? IF SO, HOW OFTEN? (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

Total responses: 229

WHY DO YOU USE BUS/COACH SERVICES (PRE-COVID)



Comments:

Total responses: 204

WHICH BUS/COACH SERVICES DO YOU USE MOST FREQUENTLY FROM

Bath	73%
Trowbridge	11%
Devizes	11%
Chippenham	9%
London	3%
Melksham	3%

Bus services in use:

14
69
171/2/3
234
271/2/3
403
X10/32/34/43/63/69/71/72

Total responses: 92

WHAT WOULD GET YOU TO USE BUSES/COACHES MORE OFTEN? (PRE-COVID)

Comments …

- Evening service on the X34.
- A local hopper bus for Melksham Town and Without.
- Routes and times more convenient to me.
- Routes and times more convenient to me.
- If I was unable to drive.
- Cheaper fares.
- Better bus service from Keevil, maybe with mini buses rather than large buses, and then encouraging people to use it.
- A bus stop within walking distance of my home and a frequent service.
- More buses more often going more routes.
- Later buses back from Bath.
- Cheaper fares.
- Cheaper price and more often buses as a lot of the time i had to wait an hour for one.
- Better local service.
- Cheaper fares.
- A bus hub with information in the town center.
- Cheaper fares.
- Not necessary.
- Cheaper tickets later services back from Bath on a weekend.
- More frequent services.
- More services and cheaper fares, less need to change buses.
- Frequency.
- Nothing - unreliable and slow.
- More frequent & later services.

Total responses: 108

Comments …

- Later services.
- I might catch one to the train station if they would only stop there.
- Better information about the bus routes.
- Nothing – not interested in using.
- Service from Seend.
- More accessibility to home.
- I use when necessary.
- Cheaper.
- More frequent services spread out over the day, not all arriving within 10 minutes of each other. No bus back from Corsham after 1.30 during week.
- More direct routes to places I need to go.
- Better times - ones to bath the times are ridiculously sparse! And end too early.
- More routes.
- Covered bus stops.
- More stops.
- Regular service.
- I will probably start to go into Bath on the bus since they've introduced the clean air zone. Otherwise I find the car more convenient.
- Nothing. The services are too infrequent to make it convenient.
- Cost reduction – far too expensive.
- Cheaper and better service wiry later running times.
- There are no direct buses from Seend to Melksham. So I do not use this service. Nothing as I have no real need to use a bus.
- Would use bus to Corsham if there were buses back in afternoon.

WHAT WOULD GET YOU TO USE BUSES/COACHES MORE OFTEN? (PRE-COVID)

Comments …

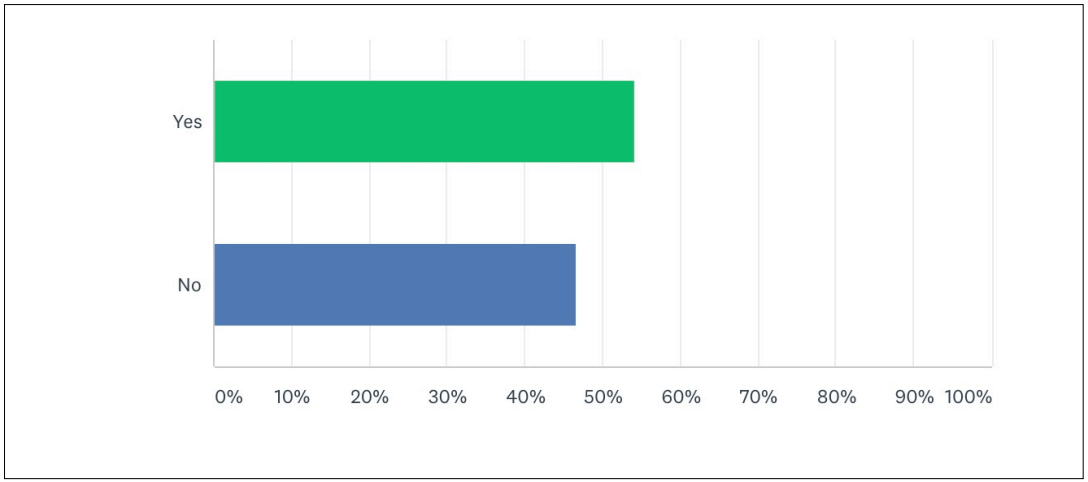
- I now have bus pass and use bus more frequently to go to Bath and Melksham, but your questions are pre-Covid.
- Cheaper fairs, more routes.
- If there were evening and Sunday service to Trowbridge and Chippenham.
- Bus stop nearer.
- Later night buses.
- Lowering the fares.
- Competitive pricing. Publicised trips.
- Price. Regular. More reliable at arriving on time.
- If the buses went to the station would use town bus. If hourly or better, earlier start, into evening would use Sunday buses.
- I wouldn't.
- Once Covid restrictions are lifted.
- More bus stops around town, not just access from town centre.
- More social time.
- More services esp in evening and to Corsham/Bradford.
- If they were cheaper than using the car.
- Rolling updates on next buses at main stops, more flexible ticket use policies, friendlier drivers.
- Bowerhill only has Bath buses, have to bus to town & then get different bus if going Trowbridge – makes it too expensive.
- Being unable to drive my own car.
- More frequent service - perhaps a circular bus to supermarkets.
- Definitely if sanitised etc re COVID and to carry on with the cleanliness within in the buses.

Total responses: 108

Comments …

- More disability friendly buses to allow access for my scooter. The last time I went to Bath I was told to lift my scooter onto the luggage rack! I refused as it's too heavy. An older gentleman was made to move for me to sit with my folded scooter. It put me off bus travel, not enough room for scooters or pushchairs.
- More frequently and cheaper public transport.
- Cheaper buses that run more frequently to Trowbridge would encourage me to use it for work.
- More direct route to destination. They don't run at times I would need them. Early morning or late evening.
- Cheaper, more availability. Better destinations.
- Direct connection to train station and schedule; more frequent service; better information at stops.
- Nothing. Just not convenient.
- Reduced price. If the routes didn't take so long.
- Contact less payments, I never have change on me. Prices on the timetables so I can see what it will cost me before I'm on the bus without enough money!
- More local services from near my home – not having to go to town to catch bus Reasonable fares return buses during the evening – increase availability.
- More local services from near my home – not having to go to town to catch bus Reasonable fares return buses during the evening – increase availability.
- More routes to other places and more frequently.
- More buses to and from Bradford on Avon to access the train station there.
- Increased service times. Contactless payments on all buses.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS?



Total responses: 229

Comments:

- Relief from traffic disturbance and pollution for Beanacre, North Melksham and Semington Road.
- With anticipated drop in traffic (home working), money could be much better spent on alternatives - cycle routes, bus services etc.
- Take the major traffic route away from the town to relieve the bottleneck on Beanacre Road. The road is carrying an increasing heavy volume of vehicles and this would improve local air quality.
- I think the proposed new by-pass will just mive the problem and delays further along the A350. There are other towns on the A350 that are in greater need of a by-pass (e.g. Westbury). I don't want to large areas of countryside destroyed to build the by-pass.
- I think the proposed new by-pass will just move the problem and delays further along the A350. There are other towns on the A350 that are in greater need of a by-pass (e.g. Westbury). I don't want to large areas of countryside destroyed to build the by-pass.
- I cannot imagine living by the A350.
- Taking any traffic away from pedestrian areas is good.
- I am furious with the proposal to put a bypass straight through beautiful unspoilt countryside and woodland so close to Bowerhill and the Canal. Everywhere we read the need to maintain our countryside and to encourage people to walk more and enjoy the countryside. The area that will be ruined by this proposal is heaven for wildlife and an attraction for thousands to enjoy the countryside around our town. Further the new road will increase pollution of both air and noise. We are told the Government wants to encourage less car travel and needs to hit higher green levels, so this scheme flies in the face of this. COVID has changed our way of life for ever with more people going to be working from home, thus decreasing car journeys. The loss of farms and farmland is devastating to our economy.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- How can a bypass be the way forward when we are trying to reduce our carbon footprint, ripping up acres of carbon sucking green fields and laying down hundreds and thousands of tons of concrete, tarmac, and aggregates will be devastating. Our farm would be ripped in two, destroying the hedges and wildlife that we have encouraged and nurtured , heart-breaking!!!!!
- Knocking two minutes off journey times by diverting traffic 9km through many acres of green fields and hedgerow habitats is not only an obscene waste of public money but also an ecological disaster. You are trying to fix a none existent problem as most of the traffic going through Melksham (which isn't bad at all in comparison to other towns, ie Devizes, Westbury etc.) is caused by Asda and McDonald's that the Council decided to stick next to the road.
- Too many heavy lorries are using the A350 through Beanacre and onto other areas, especially since Bath has put in some restrictions. If a bypass was built that took some of the through traffic away from the town, people could cycle and walk more freely with easier access to the canal. This would encourage people not from Melksham to visit the town. Concerned about air quality within the area of Melksham.
- It is not needed as they can vastly improve the roads there are. It is an underhand way to provide land to build houses on. It will destroy the countryside around Melksham and Bowerhill. Bowerhill itself will be surrounded on all four sides by major roads, and be separated completely from Melksham.
- I currently work in McDonald's Melksham and I can see how bad it can get to get through the roundabout to go to work or how bad the queues are right outside of work as theres no other way and a bypass would help definitely with that.
- Environmental.

Comments …

- Wiltshire Council say that a new bypass is to reduce traffic through the town centre etc but we all know that this is just a front so that they can in build with more housing. Melksham already has a bypass - the A350. It was built to divert traffic away from Beanacre and, as a perfect example of what is to come, houses have been built up to and across this bypass! I have lived in my Bowerhill home since April 1988 and am absolutely appalled and disgusted by these proposals. The road will destroy the countryside. The northern end has to navigate floodplains and the southern end has to take into account the Wilts & Berks canal. The unique flora and fauna habitats in both of these areas, and in between, will never recover despite any measures taken by WC. The current bypass runs beautifully with the only pinch points being by McDonald's and Aldi. Surely the answer is to relocate these businesses and avoid a huge unnecessary cost, both financial and ecological.
- Because if the proposed routes and providing opportunities for more houses to be built WHICH ARE NOT WANTED BY THE PEOPLE OF MELKSHAM.
- It would take the heavy traffic away from residential and town areas, making it safer for families and encourage more wildlife to inner parts. The pollution would be reduced around residential areas.
- Reduce congestion between Beanacre and Bowerhill.
- Roads around Melksham are often slow with traffic who are not accessing the town, just travelling through. The pollution could be better managed by vehicles not having to stop start as they travel through the town, close to residential areas.
- We need it so many lorries trundling along through Beanacre the A350 behind weavers Crofts siren day and night if a bypass was built it would be safer and quite. Road user jump the red lights dangerous for pedestrians.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- Loss of wildlife, Greenland and habitat. Encourage more traffic, more pollution.
- Reduce amount of traffic in town.
- Will disrupt our view of the countryside. Noise traffic. Bad impact on our canal walks and daily walks that are on our doorstep.
- We should be encouraging less car usage. The bypass is being built to enable house building which will bring more cars to the town and exacerbate existing issues on side roads as Melksham will increasingly become dormitory.
- Indifferent.
- Would impact on local roads – de disrupted when building.
- Travelling to Chippenham is horrendous with the level of traffic, although the traffic lights on the Asda Roundabout have helped.
- The unnecessary expense. Destruction of natural environment/wildlife, especially the area around the canal and the loss of access to it, especially around the Bowerhill area. The extra house building which will inevitably follow when there are already not enough public services (schools, GPs, parking etc) for the houses which are already being built.
- Unnecessary waste of money, money better sent on improving transport services.
- BUT.. the proposed route around the bottom end of Bowerhill is NOT acceptable. The destruction of Giles wood and natural habitat there would be criminal. Also the cost of bridging the final bit across the flood plain will be astronomical. Very stupid idea. Although going the East way would require crossing the river is would be a shorter span and less devastating to the environment along its route. I'm very angry that it seems to have just been lip service to the alternative routes, there only really seems to have been one route in contention the whole way along. Could it be that councillors live on the East side????

Comments …

- Having an eastern by pass makes a lot of sense, particularly considering wind direction. However I see a lot more benefits to HGVs, logistics companies and increased Council funds through housing and saving the council from embarrassment than to local residents. Of course it will be nice not to have HGVs speeding past our schoolchildren in east Melksham but this is a reality that should not have been allowed to happen in the first place. How is there not a weight restriction on snowberry lane for instance is beyond me. We would love to see the plans to regenerate the town centre and pedestrian/cycling utopia that moving the vehicles east will create. All I can see is a few dotted lines that say cycle route. The town needs employment, urbanisation, renovation of abandoned buildings.
- We already have Western Way and all the works to the roundabout by Asda. The traffic would flow through the town, if all roundabouts, pedestrian lights and traffic lights were removed. This would remove all the vehicles sat with engines idling at the traffic lights, etc, thereby improving the air quality in town.
- There is no problem with traffic other than impatience. The bypass will shift a traffic jam further along the road not improve traffic flow. The Bath clean air zone will increase pollution along the bypass route which with the routes to the East of Melksham will impact school and homes. Cutting down Giles wood for an unrequired road is abhorrent.
- It is not needed and where do you draw the line. The land in between is then infilled with houses when we do not have enough infrastructure to support what is built. NO BYPASS.
- Too much traffic on present system which cannot be improved through West of Melksham without compulsory purchase from Farmers past Aldi, McDonald's, Leekes and missing Beanacre.
- Only logical answer.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- Need to reduce through traffic.
- It would depend on its route though.
- Need to make town centre less congested.
- It will put huge volumes of vehicles closer to my house.
- It's a hard question, yes I support it to help ease congestion but I'm also against it as will lose more valuable habits for the local wildlife and gives a different area the problem ie Bowerhill.
- Mixed feeling. Mostly not supportive. I don't support digging up countryside for more road.
- After living in Melksham for 40 plus years the increase in traffic is insane, Melksham is constantly at gridlock due to the sheer amount of traffic which makes wanting to go anywhere in Melksham hard and put me off and I would rather shop online then have to actually drive and sit in the constant traffic queues.
- We have to stop destroying nature. The new bypass will create huge amount of pollution from noise and other car emissions (exhaust and non exhaust) into areas which don't currently have it.
- To ease congestion through town.
- It will lose its current ruralness, we have already compromised once with the Semington bypass. It will damage the wildlife and the noise. I paid a premium for my house to be by the canal not a bypass!!
- I think WC are pushing it through and ignoring the locals. They should have put two option through as many local believe the option they are taking through is more housing. As a nation we are trying to leave cars at home, work from home more, so why do we need a bypass. The proposed route is through beautiful countryside, it propose health risk to locals and irreparable damage to wildlife.

Comments …

- Vehicle pollution will be dropping due vehicle manufactures producing more electric vehicles, projected that all vehicles to be all electric by 2040, and bypassing the town takes business away for those with businesses, the proposed bypass will only bring more populus, which will only add to the congestion, not ease it, sticking a plaster on problem does not solve it. Take a relief road off before Beanacre into Melksham for people that live in Melksham, this alone will alleviate the congestion, bypassing around Bowerhill is not with in keeping with preserving the little countryside we have, wooden the existing road from Asda, through to Semington as this was always designed for that very purpose, look at the width of the bridges between Great Bear Distribution and Semington roundabout, adding a bypass all the way around Bowerhill is just asking for trouble as buildings will follow this more population which will only add to the congestion, the town needs to stop growing to effectively stop congestion, once you rip up the countryside you can't give it back, where is the plans for planting trees for absorbing carbon dioxide?
- Yes because it is NOT needed, we moved here to get away from traffic and now you want to move a massive bypass, we will move if you do. You will destroy Melksham town as it will take what little users we do have away. Listen to what people who live hear want and we DO NOT want it.
- Don't need one it's already in place. Just need to connect to Beanacre North of Forest.
- Unnecessary destruction of precious countryside.
- In general, moving heavy traffic away from populated areas seems a good idea. However, care needs to be taken not to destroy greenfield areas in the process – particularly since new roads seem to lead on to housing developments along the same route.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- I am totally against the bypass for many reasons firstly we do not know the traffic flow and impact of covid on the long-term traffic volumes in and around melksham it is likely that these will decrease as more people will permanently work from home. The proposed route cuts through beautiful tranquil countryside and will have a disastrous impact on on the local environment, wildlife, noise pollution and and the area is a wonderful place for people to visit and is regularly used by the community. The area has provided wonderful rest bite and fresh air for people and doing covid-19 this was especially important. No doubt the introduction of the new bypass will also lead to even more houses being built between Bowerhill and the bypass again having a detrimental effect on on wildlife and the environment. The quota of new houses being built in melksham is excessive already and the bypass will lead to more !
- Beanacre is extremely busy and the residents deserve peace.
- There is no need for it, traffic isn't that bad, and it's completely unnecessary to ruin the surrounding countryside for this. The money would be better spent elsewhere or on other projects. The bypass is an excuse to build more houses.
- Ruin the countryside at the canal a place that is used by Melksham and Bowerhill residents. Air quality will be significantly reduced. Just an excuse to build more houses in the future. Just moving the problem from beanacre to Melksham
- Destroying beautiful countryside near the canal in order for developers to build more houses. It also seems to be a bypass for Beanacre residents, who all more than likely moved there knowing a road is there. If anywhere the bypass should come from the new road by the rugby club and football club. People on the east of Melksham will use this road including this coming from Devizes. Shorter road which will bring cost.

Comments …

- Commuting to and from Chippenham it takes longer to get out of/back through Melksham than the rest of the journey.
- Because things have changed massively. Vehicles are going electric. People are working from home. Peoples habits have changed. Melksham hasn't got the infrastructure to support more houses which a new by pass WILL open up new pockets of land for building so more cars and traffic so you ask yourself what was the benefit? Which ever area you choose for a bypass you destroy beautiful countryside which is diverse and has protected animals and newts. Shouldn't we be looking after these exercise spaces?
- Reduce traffic near Asda.
- I am not a driver but if this helps take vehicles away from the town, the large lorries clogging up our roads, going through town, then it has to be good.
- I cannot support the idea of ruining more countryside to build a road. If car journeys are made easier there will be more cars on the road and more pollution. The traffic through Melksham is not at all bad. I have never been caught in a traffic jam there.
- Free up town centre.
- Will reduce traffic congestion through the centre of town.
- Through traffic is a problem with pollution - heavy goods vehicles and company cars.
  A by-pass will give the town an opportunity to develop tourism.
- Ease traffic through town centre.
- Traffic very busy through town.
- Need housing gotta go somewhere.
- To get through traffic away from the town and villages on the A350 such as Beanacre.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- Less traffic through town centre.
- We have a bypass. But we still need trade and commuters to come into town.
- Other towns Westbury & Devises need one more.
- Melksham is far too busy and needs another bypass.
- It will reduce traffic through residential areas and cut pollution.
- It is needed to reduce traffic in some local areas, but has created distrust of Wiltshire Council through their lack of openness and accountability. Should not be an excuse for more housing, and environmental impact should be reconsidered. Wider route avoiding Giles' Wood etc would be preferable.
- Stop bloody Beanacre residents moaning all the time.
- Just another waste of money. Ruining wildlife. And a hidden agenda for more building.
- Traffic needs to be taken away from roads that aren't fit for purpose i.e. road from Leekes area. Although the A350 needs to also by pass Westbury first.
- This was difficult to answer but I have to say yes living near the A350. The volume of traffic is horrendous. However, I don't feel building more and more new roads is the long term answer. People need to use alternative means of travelling and use their feet to walk or cycle for shorter journeys in my opinion. I know healthy people who live near me that drive to work less than two miles away. If they felt safe, maybe they would walk or cycle.
- A350 traffic is a nightmare. All commercial vehicles should use the proposed bypass to ease congestion.
- I prefer Melksham to be accessed by those who work or live in Melksham; other traffic to use by-pass.

Comments …

- Less traffic.
- Traffic is not bad enough to justify the invasion of the green belt and damage to the environment. It will only be any excuse to build within the bypass and further stretch the resources in the town.
- Town centre should be pedestrianised with low cost stalls to encourage entrepreneurs and young people. Ie free stalls for under 25s on a rota and 10% of profits go back into the town.
- Less traffic through populated areas is key to better air quality. Traffic jams of idle traffic with engines at Rickover are worst for pollutants.
- No need for a by pass ...
- Out of date solution to 20th century problem. Traffic use should decline in future. Discovered lots of lovely walks in lockdown and now they could be ruined. Being used just to build extend more housing most of which our children won't be able to afford anyway. Contradicts Climate Change objectives and building more roads just generates more traffic.
- I would normally not support building new roads, but bypasses such as this will have a positive impact on health and wellbeing, due to reduction in local air and noise pollution and more active travel uptake.
- Living off Snowberry Lane, the traffic (pre covid) on a morning when I was trying to leave my road was horrendous. Melksham has needed something to relieve local traffic for a long time and it's long overdue.
- I want a bypass in Westbury. Melksham already has one.
- A bypass would not alleviate traffic issues around town. The issue of traffic on the A350 is a far wider problem and other towns along the route need to be looked at before Melksham. Better redesign of the current road structure around the town would address issues but I consider the proposal of a new bypass is a reason to expand the town residentially - and also pays no/little attention to damage that would be caused in the countryside.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- Only if it included Beanacre.
- Yes but the choices take up so much, much needed countryside.
- Upgrade of existing infrastructure would meet all needs - esp now Farmers roundabout improved. Only traffic hold-ups is around Aldi/ McDonalds which would not be improved by bypass. Destruction of open countryside is (finally) against government recommendations.
- 1. The high cost takes possible funding from active travel schemes, which give much greater benefits even in reducing traffic congestion. 2. The scheme will generate extra traffic, increase car dependency, bring the wrong kind of economic development or more likely none, in short meet have the wrong effects and not meet its objectives. 3. There will be carbon impacts from: land take, construction operations, construction materials, extra traffic generated, and resulting greenfield developments.
- More and more houses will be built.
- All it will do is increase road traffic and ugly housing developments.
- I can sympathise with the residents of Beanacre but shifting the traffic elsewhere is not necessarily the right answer.
- To ease congestion on A350 in and around the town.
- I feel that it is not needed, and that the money would be better spent on bypassing Westbury, also means even more housing will be brought to the town.
- I do support for clean air and congestion issues, but disagree because it's taking potential shoppers away from the town.
- We do not need a bypass. The 350 is not busy all the time and does not warrant an alternative route through pristine countryside. If the bypass is built it will ensure that hundreds of more houses are built over our green field and we do not need them.

Comments …

- Unnecessary expense.
- The town is getting too congested despite having a small bypass.
- This will reduce town traffic and encourage a more pedestrianised town centre.
- To help alleviate the traffic on the A350, especially since the A36 has reduced lorry capacity.
- I'm still unsure if it's a good or bad idea. I'm worried about the loss of countryside etc. It isn't just Melksham Town centre but the road where the Spencer sports club is. Is extremely dangerous and pollution must be very high.
- In principle I support it so long as the surrounding space isn't infilled with houses which defeats the object of a bypass.
- But not on green land. Only brown land.
- The planned bypass from Beanacre looping round via Bowerhill to Semington bypass is my preferred route Most others seem to move the problem at Beanacre to another 'new' housing area.
- Why destroy more countryside by keep building new roads. There has already been 1 new road, there is a 2nd already being constructed behind spa medical centre and now planning a bypass the existing relief roads. Total waste of money and destruction of countryside and endangering wild life. Poor planning sadly the initial plans should have got it right first time. Out the money into optional transport, better commuter routes bus/train and cycle paths.
- A350 is overburdened and has pinch points.
- A350 is much too busy through Beanacre.
- It's purpose built that protect the town.
- I am ambivalent to the decision, but question the benefits stated above.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- Reduce traffic north of Beanacre and through the town centre area.
- As currently a bottle neck around the Asda area. But Wiltshire Highways while looking at Melksham need to decide the whole improved route of the A350 and stop improving it piecemeal, allowing new houses, industrial estates to be built where an improved A350 could go.
- I think the proposed bypass will simply push congestion to Yarnbrook. It will lead to increased development which will in turn increase traffic, and the proposed journey time savings are tiny. A large proportion of traffic is local and should be encouraged onto buses and bikes. This, together with increased use of electric cars over the next 10 years will reduce pollution.
- A desperate need.
- Destroy local environment.
- Not convinced that it is really necessary or appropriate.
- On the fence here. Yes as it'll be quick to get onto the M4, no as it'll ruin the countryside.
- Traffic is always growing in Melksham, I support the bypass because it is inevitable more houses and more people will live here in future making the roads worse.
- Reduce air pollution, traffic jams.
- Current A350 no longer fit for purpose.
- To make the town safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Reduce A350 congestion which has increased since weight restriction increases in Bath.
- Not sure it would reduce the amount of traffic significantly. Just moving the problem to the other side of the town?
- Most of the traffic through the town doesn't need to go through, it's just the fastest or shortest route.

Comments …

- Don't want impact on rural countryside.
- It will hopefully stop more traffic cutting through the centre of town and redirect it away from anywhere close to the town centre
- The increase in housing and population means the current road system cannot sustain the increase in traffic. Something has to change.
- A bypass is needed take the majority of passing traffic away from the town leaving the town free for visitors to access easier.
- The amount of traffic has greatly reduced since the pandemic and people now have a different way of working. There is no longer a need for a bypass and we are trying to reduce traffic not encourage more cars on the road. It will destroy natural habitat and the land between Bowerhill and the bypass will probably be turned over to new houses with yet more destruction.
- Anything that takes traffic away from the town centre can only help make the town a safer, cleaner, quieter, more prosperous place to live.
- A bypass is a very good idea for residents of Melksham. The route of the bypass is always going to be unpopular with someone. Environmental issues must be taken into consideration.
- I support the need for one, although I would prefer option 10d over 10c.
- All plans will destroy wildlife habitats, recreation and will release land git housing.
- It's not necessary, destroying our countryside and is purely being done to allow the council's favourite house builders richer. Melksham doesn't want or need more houses or a bypass of this scale and destruction. The "consultation" is a complete sham.
- It's not needed. We don't need more green countryside concreted over and we don't need more housing in this area filling in the gaps.
- Yes. More cycle paths please. Less traffic.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

Comments …

- Congestion and traffic pollution along the A350.
- Allow Melksham to be a more rural town without heavy lorry traffic.
- This is just an excuse to build more houses around Melksham and there will be a big loss of countryside.
- There are more suitable alternatives.
- It would not be a bypass it would be an access road to new houses. The route to improve traffic has not been considered just how to build more houses destroying the environment and the countryside and exacerbating problems by increasing traffic. Infrastructure facilities do not support the requirements. Countrywide roundabout improvements at great cost have already enhanced traffic flow. The pandemic and change in working practices have reduced traffic flow. I have not had issues driving through Beanacre. Melksham has already built far in access the number of houses in required build for the area. No I do want a bypass definitely not 10c being put forward as an only option. I am against the plan and believe it is a one stop agenda build houses as close to the canal as possible to destroy habitat and wildlife and to make money.
- Widening of the current roads between Asda and Semington roundabout would have the same impact as a new by pass without destroying the beautiful green space to the east of Melksham.
- To take traffic away from Beanacre and Holt roundabout so enabling better cycling and walking infrastructure to and from the villages to / from Melksham centre.
- Undecided – looking at evidence. Would prefer alternatives which the Council have rules out in their reduction to variants of option 10c – however, we can gain locally for our own transport.
- Loss of agricultural land and footpaths for recreation.
- Better cycling opportunities.

Comments …

- You want to build it by my house and concrete over virgin green space. No amount of cycle lanes will replace that or reduce the pollution caused by the endless traffic stopping and starting from the countless roundabouts, pedestrian crossings and traffic signals there will no doubt be on the Beanacre bypass.
- Town is too congested.
- Destruction of green space. Reason for bypass poor.
- The proposed route will impact on mine and my family's quality of life. We will be exposed to greater pollution and the areas of nature and beauty that we regularly use will be gone. This will impact on our physical and mental health greatly.
- The argument for cleaner air is evaporating with the introduction of electric vehicles. Home working will continue to become the norm thus reducing traffic volumes The proposed route will destroy local countryside and transfer traffic noise from a small community to a large community.
- Because traffic to south coast comes through Melksham area together with local traffic causing traffic jams into and out of town. The ring road already bypasses the town centre.
- I stated yes.. especially as this road gets very busy during the summer being a tourist route to the West Country. But I've found it very hard to understand exactly where the new road will be and areas it will effect, it may have been better to have put leaflets/questionnaire through doors so people understood where they can have their say.
- Keep the traffic out of Melksham also have another route from Chippenham because there is always a bottleneck from Lacock and the Avon.
- The town is far too crammed with traffic & far too sparse of people on foot – too much idling traffic, bad for pollution, bad for town feel/vibe.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A BYPASS? …

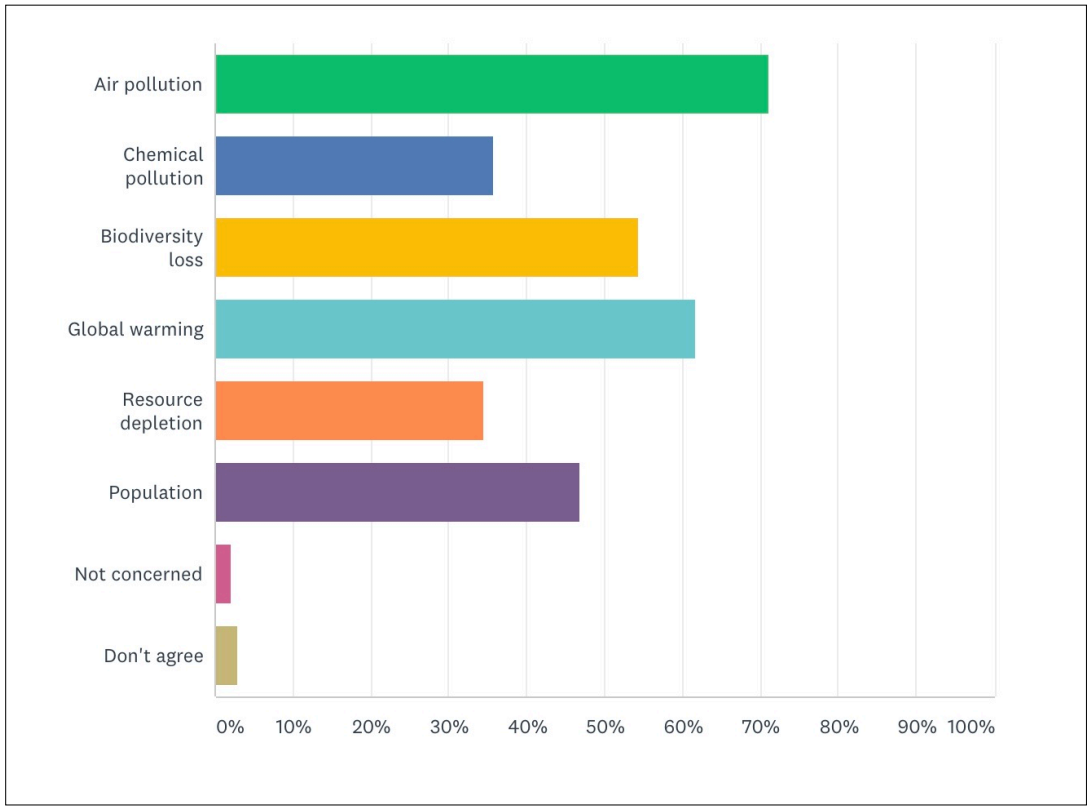
Comments …

- It is the preferred option 10c that I don't support as it will have a detrimental impact on the countryside and will cut through the current route from Bowerhill to the canal. I also suspect that those wishing to drive to and from Chippenham will still use the 'back route' via Woodrow Road and Lacock. 10c will also give the green light for more planning applications for housing. Well thought out applications which show a true desire to provide or enhance residents needs, ie access to schooling, doctor's, dentists, safe cycle and walking routes, bio-diverse green spaces are welcome but current and past developments only pay lip service.
- The town in very clogged with traffic at rush hour. Journeys that can take minutes will take an hour instead.
- If it will improve cycling access, particularly to Lacock / Chippenham then I would probably support it yes.
- Living on Beanacre Road I hear the constant flow of traffic. I also get stuck in the traffic jams, every day.
- I support continuing with the current distributor road along New Road and the fields to Beanacre.
- Diverting through traffic away from Melksham town centre and its immediate surroundings will make the town centre much more appealing to visit. Reduce traffic volumes will also create opportunities to re-purpose some road space for pedestrians and cyclists. The by-pass will also reduce journey times for motorists passing through the area.
- Bypasses only increase traffic in the area. The noise & pollution from a bypass will affect thousands of homes. It is an excuse to build thousands more homes which will swamp Melksham and Melksham Without with extra vehicles. We have to stop taking away the countryside, bit by bit. It is shocking how much has disappeared in the last 20 years.

Comments …

- We need more shops in the town instead of going out of town not close town to traffic that would encourage more people to stay away. We have a good enough by pass now.

THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IS REAL. WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS?



Total responses: 235

Comments:

- The bypass proposal with make this worse, not better.
- Loss of habitat for all wildlife especially where there are established wildlife corridors, for example around the Kennet and Avon canal and the River Avon.
- Loss of habitat for all wildlife especially where there are established wildlife corridors, for example around the Kennet and Avon canal and the River Avon.
- Building a 9km long bypass requires hundreds of thousands of tonnes of tarmac and concrete, production of these is terrible.
- More support for affordable electric vehicles and charging points within the area. Population growth needs to support better availability and use of public transport with different bus operators not all supplying the same areas at the same times. (Maybe a half hourly service between two companies.) GP surgeries, dentists etc have to be encouraged to work locally. Open land with public rights of way have to remain available.
- I feel the scheme is all about additional housing and flies in the cace of the Neighbourhood Plan and Government green issue commitments.
- There is a limit to the effect we here in a small rural town can actually achieve. Let's not jump on this latest bandwagon and waste time and effort trying to be seen to do something. The onus is on Government policies and international companies to make a real change.
- I would happily swap my diesel for an electric or hybrid car if prices were reasonable and charging facilities were easy to find.
- All of the above.
- Light and sound pollution.
- Stop cutting trees down.
- A level to allow people to get away with stupid ideas.

THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IS REAL. WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS?

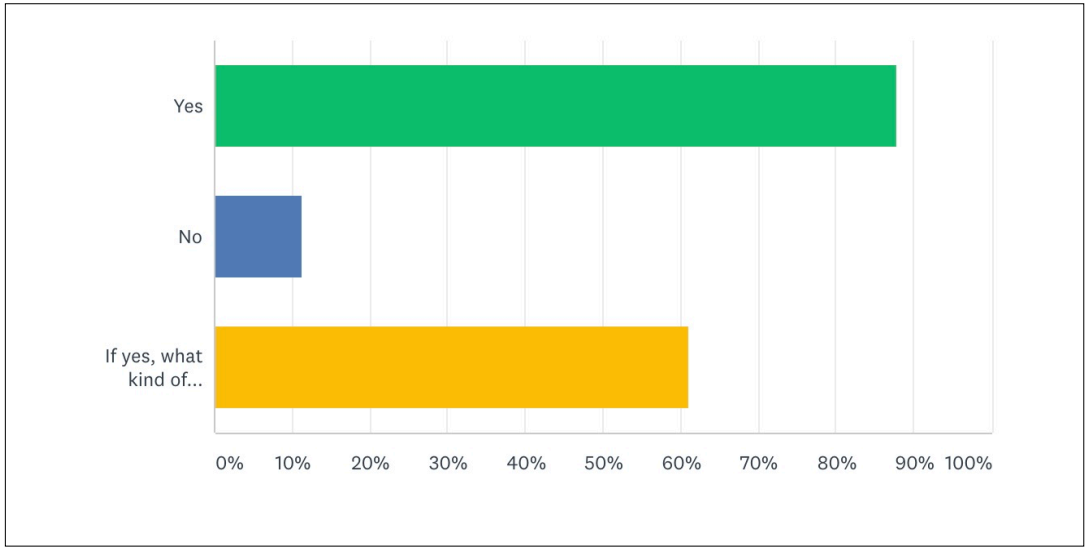
Comments …

- Mostly global warming and overuse in plastics. Impact on wildlife.
- Worrying about global climate is futile because we account for so little of it. It is sensible to reduce local pollution.
- All of the above. Adding more roads not the solution they just add to the issue preserve what we have now, enough is enough, electrification is growing and this will in itself reduce alot of the issues above.
- There's hardly any green belt left and you are ripping into it for 80,000 houses and an in needed bypass. The houses ok because people need houses but a road we do need??Ridiculous.
- Air and chemical pollution are things we can control at a local level. Global warming isn't. In general, all our problems stem from over population, but that isn't something that can be managed at local level. That said, any development around Melksham needs to consider the impact on the environment and local infrastructure.
- Plastic pollution. Too much encroachment by humans on habitat. Green site builds because it is cheap rather than focus on brown field development.
- Protecting our local wildlife and green spaces! Stop the bypass and no more housing sites.
- Destruction of green space.
- I'm worried about putting an A350 bypass road next to Melksham's ONLY secondary school.. making students breathe in toxic air!!
- More awareness in schools & our local paper to educate people.
- If the was decent shops and free parking people would not go out of town to shop and create pollution.
- Too many houses being built here and not enough services.
- Soil depletion and the loss of potential for growing plants and trees.
- Loss of green spaces and damage to environment due to building.

Comments …

- For all solar farms going in around Melksham, why are local populations gaining some investment benefits back? In Europe the local communities able to gain share from such developments? Also for hydrogen / electric vehicles better infrastructure provision is required alongside car pools & better joined up & cheaper public transport.
- Legalise electric scooters. Most people in melksham probably rarely travel outside the town. How green would that make us.
- Garden, plant, stop felling weeds/wildflowers where they don't cause obstruction, less flying, re-use, only buy second-hand where possible.
- Every house owns a car some 2-3! Volume is crazy.
- As a nation we don't take air pollution seriously enough. We whinge about it and then complain when cities try to do something about it. CAZ are vital to improve quality of life.
- The level of houses that are being built in Melksham is horrendous. The increase in population is not matched with an increase in core services such as doctors, dentists and secondary schools. I feel Melksham is again becoming a poor neighbour to surrounding towns who all have less new housing yet more facilities than in Melksham
- Climate change mostly natural. An emergency? Hyperbolic nonsense.
- Massive extra housing but not enough infrastructure for families moving into area, we need our green spaces.
- Plant more trees. Stop cutting the ones we do have down or we will be prone to more flooding as they require so much water. The mature ones require the most.
- We need to stop production of single use plastic, we lived without it before we can again.
- It would be good if it appeared that Wiltshire Council actually took the climate emergency into account when making decisions.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE TREES & SHRUBS IN THE TOWN CENTRE?



Total responses: 231

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE?

- Hedgerows and trees along A350 to dull traffic noise.
- Replacement trees around the Campus and in grounds of Melksham House. Trees above north side of old playground in KGV field.
- Also create 'Green Bridges' for leisure and farm use across the new bypass to maintain public rights of way and access to the countryside.
- Creating areas for both wildlife and recreation - areas to walk through like Conigre Mead. Creating areas for both wildlife and recreation - areas to walk through like Conigre Mead.
- Any.
- More trees and shrubs anywhere that they can be put safely. Spring flowers and wildflower areas would also be fantastic to see anywhere that they can be put safely too.
- Permanent trees (ideally local varieties) Along roadways, and in residential areas.
- Unsure do not know Melksham well enough. More work needs to be done to all encourage the village parish councils to stop trees being chopped down, and if so, a felled tree needs to be replaced with another one.
- Not in priority over cycle and bus routes, but in principle yes.
- More wild flowers and trees where possible.
- Whatever and wherever suits best.
- Leave what is already countryside and create more wooded areas all around Melksham, and it's surrounding villages of Semington, Beanacre and Bowerhill. In Bowerhill there is a wood called Giles Wood that could be expanded. There are areas along Brabazon away in Bowerhill that could be made into wildflower meadows. The main park in Melksham could be planted with more trees. Every roundabout could be replanted.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE TREES & SHRUBS IN THE TOWN CENTRE?

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Town centre already a good standard, always appreciate more. Wild flower areas in parks and on verges would be lovely.
- We could do with more trees and sustainable planting through the town in planters. As the trees and shrubs outgrow there planters they could be re planted elsewhere and new plants brought in.
- Good oxygen producing trees and shrubs and brightly coloured plants for the bees butterflies etc
- Need to hide the industrial area that contains the Lighting Superstore, and make improvements around the bridge and river.
- It would be nice if more businesses could improve their facades. Some of the less attractive buildings really let the town down. The town could be presented as a pretty, historic market town but some of the buildings conflict with this identity.
- In the parks, around new development.
- Anything to improve both took and with quality.
- I don't want to see the loss of trees and plants outside of the town.
- Anywhere we can. Tree coverage, rewilding etc.
- Trees.
- Verges and roundabouts with wildflowers.
- Wherever there is a green space, drop a couple of trees in. King George's Field could use more around the perimeter, the river side could handle a few and EVERY new building project should be made to incorporate a number of trees per new house.
- Trees which will grown big last; oaks, beech, chestnuts which all provide huge habitats. Planting large trees in isolated spaces would e good. Lots of trees around the edge of the town and a small wood on the land behind Spa road would great.

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Indigenous trees, shrubs and flowering annuals.
- Yes except there are too many overgrown uncared for things as it is.
- Market place should have been included in build.
- More trees are always welcome.
- Pots and tubs, roundabouts and verges.
- Offer free trees and community planting help to people with land who are willing to grow trees and hedges.
- In roads to slow traffic as advertised on this link I clicked.
- The square looks wonderful, what about junction of Bank St near the old banks, looks dreadful. Town needs spruce up it is looking drab and uncared for with all the empty properties.
- More large trees, in the current disused KGV playground, along the walk way from town to Murray walk. Along the Watermeadow bypass, would help with drainage.
- As many plants as possible. Grass verges to planted with meadow flowers. Look at Singapore, they have the right idea.
- Wild flowers, hate mowed grass! Let everything grow and flourish nautically.
- Anywhere that is possible !! Melksham is starting to look like a concrete jungle with the amount of houses being built, we need more trees and shrubs !
- Flowers.
- Green spaces. Schools. Gardens.
- Quick growing trees that absorb pollution. Good pollinators to support insect such as bees and birds.
- Why plan so small with the questing trees, why not a parkland that becomes recreational for the populus.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE TREES & SHRUBS IN THE TOWN CENTRE?

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Not just in the town centre. All over on the way to the canal.
- Marketplace more bushes and shrubs.
- More trees to create avenues.
- As much as possible, and anywhere we can.
- Carbon absorbing.
- More trees near busy roads but I think we should look at Melksham as a whole & not just the town centre.
- Market place because there is no shade.
- Something to attract bees - possibly further planters in the town centre and surrounding green areas.
- More small woodlands (similar to the Devizes Canal land) - native deciduous trees, hazel for use in woodland working. WHERE - on land between housing areas making houses less cramped and on top of each other around schools and play areas.
- Trees and wild flower areas (not just leaving grass long)on roundabouts and grass verges. As long as they don't obstruct drivers view.
- An avenue maybe. Good for shade when it is too hot due to global warming.
- Trees, in areas that would not impede traffic or road visibility.
- Melksham is a beautiful town and always looks it's best during summer, with colourful tubs & islands. It would be nice to see more planters a little further out of the town centre, to help extend the beauty.
- Have a tree memorial forest let people plant trees to remember someone by it could have a good range of trees. Maybe near football field. And what about a town orchard some where down Murray walk that people could help themselves to Apple and pears.

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- It would be good if people could grow more of their own trees. My husband has grown plum trees from seed and it is a pleasure to watch them grow. If people did this more and there were suggestions where trees could be planted locally, then this would be an inexpensive way of adding trees to the local environment.
- The Snowberry Lane/Eastern Way is calling out for trees or hedges to give the pedestrians, cyclist, and young children, some protection from the vehicle fumes. Very large diesel lorries use that road. There is plenty of space to plant as there is a wide grass verge. this should be done on both sides of the road.
- Potential for pedestrianised area with panting; good park around Melksham House.
- Any vacant area, chose the tree/shrub according to the site and soil characteristics.
- Trees. Would like to see all kinds of nature but that would require people to care and maintain it.
- Trees and shrubs that are local and preferably need little trimming beyond a point or only once every one or two years to save money.
- Green park areas.
- Foresters park area.
- Market Square and as part of closing the town to through traffic using planters. Mix of native evergreens and flowering trees like hawthorn.
- As a member of the working committee for the Primrose Nature Area, we're doing all we can give back some green spaces for residents (and nature) to enjoy. It would be nice to have.
- 'Quiet' areas where people can sit and enjoy some peace and quiet away from the madness of life and living in a busy town.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE TREES & SHRUBS IN THE TOWN CENTRE?

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Make use of highway verges to support more than just grass.
- Suitable for Wildlife ie birds etc
- I don't like the idea of trees planted in pavements as this cause problems later on with roots being exposed and uneven pavements causing trip hazards. Would prefer to see trees planted in large tubs.
- Rewinding of verges and other currently barren green spaces. More care taken with preserving trees around housing developments. Healthy, well established trees and hedgerows are uprooted and replaced with under whelming smaller saplings which rarely survive or thrive.
- Mature trees planted in Market Place, more mature trees in Park and on Campus site.
- More greenery in more places particularly the centre / Church St.
- Everywhere practically possible. Including fruit trees for public consumption.
- It looks lovely as it is.
- Fruit trees.
- Trees all around the open spaces.
- The more the better.
- Planting should be in pubic open spaces in housing estates. But only if they can be maintained. Trees to be coppiced to maintain health the trees in Hornbeam Crescent need attention to maintain their health.
- More trees in and around the centre.
- Not only in town centre but areas around the town - the route of the new by pass to screen the noise and reduce air pollution.
- Some trees in the Market Place would make it a more attractive area and less stark.

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Deciduous trees, particularly within the new housing estates. In fact anywhere safe.
- Islands of plants across the road to prevent speeding.
- More trees in the park, around melksham house, in the car park by Iceland there is plenty of room.
- More wilding of areas along road sides and field edges. Not just in the town centre either but in the neighbouring villages.
- In car parking places and other large areas of concrete/tarmac.
- Trees to conceal the hideous new housing developments.
- Wild flowers, shrubs, trees. No particular suggestions. The Town always looks nice with what we have already but anything more would be a bonus!
- Forests.
- Don't destroy trees that are there in the first place eg. Giles wood, Sainsbury's by the river. Not allowing anyone to remove any tree that's trunk is over a certain diameter unless it's dangerous. Trees to be planted in the fields behind the Spa houses preserving that large field from being developed further. More trees everywhere especially large English type trees such as oak, chestnut, beech etc.
- Stop cutting them down (as they help us breathe).
- Builders should plant new tree for every 1 felled
- Also protection of mature trees a d habitat eg in land area behind and next to Bowerhill primary where houses surrounding the field have been allowed to land grab remove trees and habitat. Also new builds removing trees unnecessarily. Protect Gules Wood at all costs.
- Everywhere..... Especially trees and evergreen planting.
- Trees market place.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE TREES & SHRUBS IN THE TOWN CENTRE?

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Realise tree planting is difficult in towns – perhaps have a scheme where people could adopt a planter and tend to it – ramp up some local competition. Anything green helps!
- More shrubs, leaving grass verges uncut BUT some areas are a traffic accident waiting to happen as can't see ahead or around corner or pulling out sometimes.
- Street trees, shrubs and flowers. These could be planted on the streets (in areas re-purposed by reducing traffic levels) or by creating living structures (e.g. walls).
- Just about anywhere would do!
- Roadside trees, trees in public open spaces, green walls, roof gardens, shrubs and bushes on verges, trees in private gardens.
- In any unused space. Wild flowers to encourage butterflies and bees.
- Native English broad leaf trees. Everywhere, in public spaces as well as private gardens. On wide pavements, assuming right kind of trees/ shrubs.
- Wilding of roundabouts and verges.
- Trees , wildflowers all around the town.
- Town team do a fantastic job, need more plants / trees that stay in all the time. Replace trees that have recently been chopped down.
- Verges with wild flowers and deciduous trees from British stock in suitable locations.
- Planting in the TC is difficult. Look at the tree routes in Place Road to see the problems they bring. We need to find ways to plant trees so that pavements are not disturbed by the route system.
- Riverside play park area field can be made into a nature area, more attention down Murray walk, utilising the fields coming off primrose nature reserve into Melksham East.

IF YES, WHAT KIND OF PLANTING, AND WHERE? …

- Noise reduction.
- Ones that are scientifically shown to help & encourage wildlife & global warming.
- Smaller roads, not just in towns and parks.
- Trees along every street built into bays protruding from the newly widened pavements (see above). These would also serve as traffic calming measures.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY?

ACTION ONE

- Better off road pedestrian / cycle network.
- A350 bypass to keep long distance traffic flowing and out of the town.
- Reduce traffic.
- All building and redevelopment work must be sustainable.
- Charging points for electric vehicles.
- Charging points for electric vehicles.
- Stop drivers who have no consideration for the safety of others.
- Less traffic.
- Encourage less car use by more public transport services.
- Significantly increase EV charging facilities – existing provision is woeful.
- All new house planning to be Eco friendly, ie solar panels, grey water catchment etc etc Promote cycling.
- Cancel the bypass project.
- Don't build a unnecessary bypass.
- Better public transport.
- Reduce traffic.
- More trees.
- More dedicated cycle routes ie. not part of existing payment.
- Reduce carbon footprint.
- Pedestrianise the high street at weekends.
- Encourage less car use by more public transport services.
- More cycle routes.

ACTION ONE ...

- No more roads being built.
- Increase curb side recycling items (food).
- More planting.
- More EV Chargers.
- Less air pollution.
- Have a car free zone through the town. Continue to encourage recycling.
- More electric car charging points.
- More trees and shrubs planted.
- Reducing traffic eg make town centre one way.
- Cycle routes and segregated pedestrian areas.
- Stop using green field sites for more housing.
- Encourage cycling and public transport.
- Less cars in town centre (pedestrianised during day like chippenham perhaps?)
- Cycle to work incentives.
- Integrated public transport to negate need for a bypass.
- More cycle paths.
- Stop allowing new housing - therefore reducing the population.
- No more houses.
- Grants for electric/ hybrid cars.
- Better public transport.
- Restrict HGVs to A Roads & access only - STOP THE SHORT CUTS.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION ONE …

- Plant trees.
- Enforce speed restrictions!.
- Stop traffic congestion in the town centre.
- Stop building houses where there is no work as it forces commuting out of the area.
- Turn the street lights off earlier certainly not needed in Snarlton lane.
- Pedestrian/bus only between Waitrose/Sainsbury's and Church Street.
- Pedestrianization.
- Slower speeds through villages along A350.
- Use the huge amounts of water which pours over the weir every day to generate electricity for the town.
- Don't build a bypass. Reduce traffic.
- Bike tracks to encourage cycling instead of driving.
- Traffic reduction in centre.
- Less traffic on roads.
- Recycle.
- A plastic free refillable sort of shop.
- Cut down on the amount of traffic.
- No new road.
- Care and enhancement of green spaces.
- Pedestrianisation of the town centre.
- Stop building so many houses around the town.
- Protect our countryside and access to it.

ACTION ONE …

- Plant more trees.
- More bus routes.
- NO BYPASS.
- Renewable energy.
- No more houses.
- Be mindful of the environment when considering more housing.
- Bio diversity maintain habitat
- More electric car charging points.
- Stop the bypass.
- Air pollution.
- No more houses.
- Less traffic.
- Stopping the bypass.
- Don't build a great big bypass.
- Better public transport.
- Maintain green space between Melksham and outlying villages. Stop the bypass.
- Say NO to a by pass - don't need one - make town centre a clean air zone.
- Stop building houses.
- Do not build a bypass.
- Toll charge between 8-9am through town.
- Encourage more walking, cycling (safely!)

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION ONE …

- Pedestrian friendly.
- More charging points for electric cars.
- More trees planted.
- Reduce traffic.
- More varied local shops.
- Less traffic.
- Safer Cycle routes into the town centre and convenient storage.
- Cycle paths everywhere.
- Less cars.
- More local leisure/recreation to stop reliance on driving to other towns for this.
- Bypass.
- Town centre out of bounds to traffic.
- No bypass.
- Town wide low traffic neighbourhood.
- Reduce traffic flow through the centre of town.
- Stop buying new stuff.
- More green space kept not housing.
- Reduce through traffic to reduce air pollution.
- Refuse the bypass – substitute with least damaging infrastructure upgrade.
- Replace the road scheme with ambitious active travel plans.
- Don't build the by pass.

ACTION ONE …

- Reduce flooding by planting trees.
- Better use of public transport.
- More trees and save nature trees.
- Reduce traffic flow through the town, but not blocking or pedestrianising current roads Encourage traffic not to go through the town.
- Clean rivers and streams out every year to stop flooding.
- Less traffic in the town.
- Pedestrian zones.
- Cycle paths.
- Unnecessary transport.
- Limit cars.
- More electric car charging points.
- Make the use of EV cars easier, more charging points.
- Higher environmental standards re new builds.
- Provision of electric vehicle charging points.
- Green cycle lanes into Melksham from villages.
- Make town centre car free zone.
- Improved cycling routes.
- Reduced heavy traffic flows.
- Local shops.
- More trees – especially hedges etc., round schools.
- Easy, connecting, frequent public transport. Less transit traffic - apart from public transport.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION ONE …

- Initiatives to support low impact travel, such as cycling, walking, public transport.
- Less traffic going through built up areas , some of the vehicles / motorbikes revving up on purpose to make the terrible unsociable noises not just daytime but evening and late at night.
- Increase trees and green space.
- Better public transport services reducing need for reliance on a car. Better connectivity to surrounding areas by train, bus and bicycle.
- More tree planting.
- Less lorries thru the town.
- More trees and wild areas.
- Better recycling.
- Reduce travel by car.
- Electric scooter/ Cycle lanes.
- Reducing cars in town.
- Cut down on through traffic.
- Congestion charge.
- Reduced traffic.
- Tackling Pollution – more cycle lanes.
- Safer cycle routes – Kennet & Avon Canal.
- Reduce traffic (not divert).
- Cycle routes.
- Less town traffic.
- Encourage the use of solar by offering money incentives.

ACTION ONE …

- MUCH more option to buy sustainably.
- Car free zone.
- Better cheaper bus service.
- More recycling opportunities.
- Make cycling safer. More double yellows needed to reduce all the parking everywhere, cycle lanes if possible.
- Less traffic.
- The better use of public transport.

ACTION TWO.

- Controlled building.
- New developments to be laid out to maximise solar energy.
- More charging points for EVs.
- Safe access to town without needing a car.
- Improved walking and cycling access - rights of ways and cycling lanes.
- Improved walking and cycling access - rights of ways and cycling lanes.
- More trees.
- Cheaper public transport services.
- Make the town centre into a vehicle free area.
- Fast electric car chargers - at least 50Kw or if possible to match the 360Kw of the Braintree Charging Forecourt.
- Improve public transport.
- Better public transport.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION TWO …

- Spread out the building of houses around Wiltshire, don't concentrate them all in one place, thus improving air quality.
- Keep open spaces.
- Plant more trees.
- Increase areas of rewilding on surrounding meadow land.
- Encourage more non vehicle movements.
- Plant more trees.
- Cheaper public transport services.
- Speed bumps on Sandridge road to encourage people to use the new road and not go through town, this would make it safer for the school, the town park and be better for the environment.
- More cycleways.
- Replace all the trees and shrubs recently "ripped out" for building sites.
- More recycling.
- Less housing developments.
- More active anti-plastic use.
- Encourage a walk/bike scheme.
- Address old and energy inefficient buildings and homes.
- Less traffic through the town.
- Plastic use and recycling (including plastic bags)
- Better/cheaper/more efficient public transport.
- Improve public transport, better rail links and more choice of destinations by bus Manage public areas, e.g. parks and verges with wildlife in mind.

ACTION TWO …

- Bypass.
- More green spaces.
- Greener housing grants.
- Integrated traffic planning at a county level to mitigate hub and air pollution on roads so a change in one area doesn't negatively affect another.
- Between train availability.
- Level of traffic - reduce this via the bypass hopefully.
- No more roads.
- Litter.
- Availability of electric scooters.
- Improve train connections to Bristol - that stops people driving to BOA/ Chippenham Encourage bicycling.
- Limit new housing, with all the associated pollution it brings.
- Plant more trees.
- stop building on green spaces to preserve biodiversity.
- Cycle lanes through town /pedestrian area.
- Rigid enforcement of HGV routes.
- Stop building houses.
- Plant more trees everywhere.
- More shops here to avoid the need to travel elsewhere.
- More trees, shrubs, greenery.
- More green spaces preserved and not built upon.
- Re plant.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION TWO …

- Somewhere we can recycle more soft plastics and terracycle stuff.
- More trees and shrubs planted, especially those good for taking in pollution.
- More public transport.
- Better public transport.
- Bypass to facilitate 1.
- No new major roadbuilding.
- Don't put a bypass in.
- Planting of woodlands.
- MORE TREES.
- Tackle emissions.
- No more major roads.
- Incentives to reduce reliance on using cars.
- Plant trees.
- Pedestrianisation of the high street.
- Stop destroying our green spaces.
- Pedestrian zones.
- No more road building.
- Less houses being built.
- Protect green spaces.
- Safer routes on foot.
- Maintain space between Melksham and canal.
- Stop the bypass.

ACTION TWO …

- Fast charger Electric car charging points.
- Address recycling bins around the town.
- No more large scale house building.
- Dual carriageway western way A350. Electric buses = frequently run.
- Stop building so many houses.
- More recycling in care homes/hotels.
- Cycle paths.
- More planting of trees and additional green spaces in housing estates Have charging points for electric/hybrid cars.
- Stop cafes selling takeaway cups.
- No more houses.
- Wilding the verges.
- Places to park bikes.
- One way?
- More trees and green space.
- Stop through traffic.
- More green space used for biodiversity.
- Wide spread use of solar, why not on roofs of large buildings eg Asda highly secure bike parking.
- Build more cycle paths.
- Improving access to recycling facilities.
- Better cycling and walking infrastructure.
- Public transport.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION TWO …

- Large lorry drop offs should be either early or late in the day.
- More shops to be able to shop local.
- Solar panels on all new builds.
- Parks and green space.
- Enforce speed limits.
- shops with local produce.
- Safer to walk.
- Heavier and sustainable planting on new housing developments as well as within the town centre. Increased train service.
- Better public transport options. More buses from around melksham not just town centre Trees.
- More public transport.
- More cycle lanes.
- Mandatory district heating for new build estates.
- Pedestrianise some areas.
- huge expansions in allotments, resident engagement on planting/ gardening as the single most impactful way anyone can help sequester carbon in the ground.
- Taxi fares are set far too high by Wilts Council.
- 'Boris'-type bike availability to reduce car trips into town centre.
- Upgrade the A365 between Devizes and Melksham with a segregated cycle lane.
- A greenway along the TransWilts operational railway line.
- Increase public transport.

ACTION TWO …

- Safer cycle routes in town centre.
- Building new roads encourages more traffic to travel this way, we don't want that Congestion in/out of town.
- Business more waste responsibility.
- Encourage the use of electric vehicles by installing more power points.
- More priority given to safe cycle routes.
- More tree planting.
- Tree planting.
- More nature areas (not just trees).
- Have schools allowing bikes/scooters back onsite. So many parents are driving because of them not being able to leave bikes/scooters at school.
- Less emissions.
- More cycle routes.
- Support for appropriate development, such as green corridors between areas.
- Reduce traffic.
- Encourage better recycling.
- More careful planting of trees. Not just plugging them in as an afterthought.
- Better recycling opportunities / sites.
- Electric car sharing.
- Incentives bottle recycling like Europe with a deposit scheme.
- Public transport.
- Stop rat running.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION TWO …

- Planting more trees and shrubs, stopping people stoning front gardens.
- Make the railway station more accessible via the back of Novacast.
- Increase affordable public transport.
- Reducing landfill – more recycling.

ACTION THREE.

- Planting of trees and bushes.
- Discourage use of gas and oil central heating.
- More parking outside of town - to encourage the last bit to be walked.
- Cleaner air quality.
- Park and ride options for the town and railway station.
- Park and ride options for the town and railway station.
- Keep existing green areas and make more green spaces available.
- Ensure 100% recycling capability.
- More trees throughout Melksham and the associated villages.
- Promote repair of appliances and improve effectiveness of recycling.
- Less cutting of verges where safe to do so.
- Don't cut the verges where sensible, it encourages biodiversity.
- And get rid of the boy/girl racers.
- Replace Street lighting to LEDs and address electrical waste.
- Reduction in population.
- Incentive green waste recycling instead of charging for it.

ACTION THREE …

- Don't think there is one or much we can do the planet will survive whatever is done.
- Better bus and rail destinations.
- Enforce low speed limits.
- Get industrials out of town.
- Improve on public transport systems to avoid using cars.
- No more new housing.
- Businesses forced to use earth friendly fuels.
- Reuse.
- Boris bikes (bike hire).
- More traffic calming on residential roads to stop some drivers driving erratically and dangerously increasing pollution.
- Town-wide environmental policy that all agencies subscribe to.
- Improved train and bus services.
- Transparency about housing development.
- Protect wildlife.
- Build better cycleways.
- EDUCATION.
- Work on busses and train transport not bypass.
- Destruction of wildlife etc from above.
- More diverse shops in Melksham to avoid longer journeys.
- Make cycle paths.
- Reducing lights and light pollution.
- More green space - less new builds.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION THREE …

- Encourage green initiatives with business and housing.
- Stop bypass plans.
- Stop the bypass.
- Cycle lanes.
- Lower carbon emissions through the town.
- Green energy options for homes.
- Park and ride out of town.
- Out-of town parking with free buses to town !
- Bus service from Sandridge Common.
- Improve wildlife areas, too many new houses taking away habitats.
- More nature reserves.
- Stop building so many house, without adding needed infrastructure to go with those housing developments mean people have to travel by car.
- Encourage more people to walk.
- Get better public buses so that we do not uses cars so much.
- No bypass.
- More trees.
- Tell GWR to drop their prices.
- Reduce the speed limit across the town to 20mph.
- Better public transport links.
- Restricting building of non-affordable housing.
- Education workshops.
- Recycling points in key areas on street.

ACTION THREE …

- Greater use of solar energy.
- Tree and natural flower planting.
- More solar incorporated on existing buildings.
- Less street lighting.
- Stop building houses on fields.
- Cost things in accordance with the damage they will inflict on the environment. Local jobs.
- Outside activities.
- Community compostable recycling areas for those unable to do so at home.
- No bypass.
- Safer bike and foot routes.
- Bio fuels.
- More fields green spaces not more houses.
- More walking routes.
- Pedestrianise town centre.
- Reverse the little English mentality to spend money, energy and carbon onto the endless removal of weeds and wildflowers in areas where they cause no obstruction. It's bonkers. Bins in streets to have recycling compartments.
- Develop Melksham as 20-min town.
- Protect the open countryside and the K+A canal.
- Urgent support for home insulation and domestic gas removal.
- Make cycling safer.
- Recycling points in key areas on street.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION THREE …

- Encourage walking to town wider pavements, King Street/Semington Road.
- Stop building houses as it is becoming over populated.
- Less large vehicles (lorries etc).
- First plastic free town.
- Build safer cycle and walking routes, especially through park areas.
- Better local recycling options – for example the TerraCycle scheme.
- Encourage more walking cycling to town.
- Solar panels on public buildings.
- More packaged recycling initiatives i.e. crisp packets Wiltshire Air Ambulance.
- Put pressure on the police to sort the rowdy crowd of teenagers out in Kings Park. These kids make lots of families, myself included, drive out to neighbouring towns.
- More planting.
- Use trains and buses.
- Limit housebuilding, where possible to brownfield sites.
- Tree/Shrub planting.
- Only carbon free buses allowed during the day.
- Keep existing green areas.
- More trees!
- More planting of trees and shrubs.
- Reduction of waste.
- More recycling facilities in town.
- Encourage more walking cycling to town.

ACTION THREE …

- Improve household recycling centre to make it accessible to older people. Remove dangerous metal steps, raise unloading area above skip height.
- Maintain the existing population figures and do not increase.
- Encourage use of bus and rail.
- Manage an increasing risk of flooding or extreme heat events to ensure the town's economy and residents aren't impacted.
- Encourage renewable energy use.
- More accessibility for cycles.
- Protection of green land against development.
- Plant more forests.
- Reduction of plastic use in supermarkets.
- Make the town centre motor vehicle free.
- Pedestrianise the high street..
- Build the by pass.
- Preserve and increase green areas where possible.
- Plant lots of trees on the green spaces. Encourage walking to town wider pavements, King Street/Semington Road.
- Stop building houses as it is becoming over populated.
- Less large vehicles (lorries etc).
- First plastic free town.
- Build safer cycle and walking routes, especially through park areas.
- Better local recycling options – for example the TerraCycle scheme.
- Ensure any trees cut down are replaced.
- More friendly for cyclists.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR THREE MOST IMPORTANT ACTIONS IN MELKSHAM TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY? …

ACTION THREE …

- Improve household recycling centre to make it accessible to older people. Remove dangerous metal steps, raise unloading area above skip height.
- Maintain the existing population figures and do not increase.
- Encourage use of bus and rail.
- Manage an increasing risk of flooding or extreme heat events to ensure the town's economy and residents aren't impacted.
- Encourage renewable energy use.
- More accessibility for cycles.
- Protection of green land against development.
- Plant more forests.
- Reduction of plastic use in supermarkets.
- Make the town centre motor vehicle free.
- Pedestrianise the high street..
- Build the by pass.
- Preserve and increase green areas where possible.
- Plant lots of trees on the green spaces.
- Encourage walking to town wider pavements, King Street/Semington Road.
- Stop building houses as it is becoming over populated.
- Less large vehicles (lorries etc).
- First plastic free town.
- Build safer cycle and walking routes, especially through park areas.
- Better local recycling options – for example the TerraCycle scheme.
- More Charge points for electric vehicles.

ACTION THREE …

- Encourage more walking cycling to town.
- Solar panels on public buildings.
- More packaged recycling initiatives i.e. crisp packets Wiltshire Air Ambulance.
- Put pressure on the police to sort the rowdy crowd of teenagers out in Kings Park. These kids make lots of families, myself included, drive out to neighbouring towns.
- More planting. More trees!
- Use trains and buses.
- Limit housebuilding, where possible to brownfield sites.
- Tree/Shrub planting.
- Only carbon free buses allowed during the day.
- Keep existing green areas.
- More planting of trees and shrubs.
- Widening of the Asda to Semington roundabout road.
- Reduce bus prices to encourage more travel.
- No parking on the narrow high street.
- More eco schemes like solar panels.
- Improved commuting.
- Protection of existing open spaces.
- Regulate construction and farming.
- Safe cycling/walking routes not just around Melksham but to places near.
- Rewilding of green spaces. Less mowing and strumming to create green deserts. Compostable dog poo bags around plus more dog bins.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD FURTHER COMMENTS, PLEASE DO SO

COMMENTS:

- Please give consideration to balancing the housing needs and transportation across the whole of Wiltshire and not just in certain areas. Ensure that wildlife is protected in any future developments – rerouting or moving the development if necessary to protect established wildlife areas.
- Please justify the case for this devastating bypass as I don't believe it's about saving three minutes off a journey time, I have travelled through Melksham out to Beanacre recently, no holds up, this was at peak times too, utterly preposterous, think about the devastation!!!
- Cleary route 10C was chosen a long time ago, and even though it goes against public opinion and all reason you are choosing to go ahead with it so one day you can turn all the green land around melksham into mass housing. People see this very clearly and you will not get away with this sort of undemocratic corruption.
- New housing must have solar panels, electric charging points, cycle lanes nearby. The town centre will die if pedestrianised.
- Covid pandemic has greatly impacted on local movement of people, and will have an ongoing change in need. Pre Covid questions/answers can therefore give a false impression on future needs. Post Covid....things will be different!
- The speeding traffic is a massive issue in Melksham. Kenilworth gardens needs addressing before a child or adult is injured or killed by the speeding idiots.
- The biggest thing that lets Melksham down is that it's being used as a giant housing estate development but at the same time there is no improvement of infrastructure to support the ever increasing population. Melksham often gets overlooked when it comes to funding and development.
- Whilst I am not currently a resident of Melksham I am seriously looking at moving back, but I would like to see some changes first!

COMMENTS …

- Union street. Please close off the Lowbourne / Ruskin Ave exit and instead route cars out through the two car parks and out onto Lowbourne / Giffords.
- Melksham is in great danger of becoming a non-sustainable environment. Too much new housing, with the increase in traffic it causes, closure of doctors' surgeries and shops in the centre of town are all adding to the problem.
- Don't copy Bath and put chicanes everywhere it causes accidents.
- Pinch points on roads that traffic speeds need controlling, signs don't work.
- The infrastructure of Melksham really needs to be looked at. We are getting lots of new housing and the population is increasing. Dr surgeries are reducing their hours they are open and we have struggled to get appointments at the dentist. There are not enough shops to keep people shopping in melksham which means a lot of people order online or go to nearby towns.
- Improve the walking route from Melksham to Praters Lane MELW40 : its dangerous Install traffic calming in Church Lane.
- Would be interested in volunteering in helping with this sort of cause. Would also be good to get kids and all schools involved.
- We need to stop growing as a town to solve many of the issues, keep on building is not the answer.
- Fix potholes not an in needed bypass and listen to the people who actually live here.
- We already have a bypass. When road built by Spa is done Devizes and Westbury have none!
- Melksham has a river running through it that could be better utilised to attract people into the town centre. Is it possible to develop a riverside area that has cafes, restaurants etc?
- Although I do support a Melksham bypass, I do not support the only proposed route the council are putting forward.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD FURTHER COMMENTS, PLEASE DO SO

COMMENTS …

- Please don't allow the bypass to be built. We will never get back the green areas that will be lost.
- We need a new hospital which would cut down carbon footprint going to other areas and relieve them.
- Time restrictions for loading and unloading in the high street. Crossing in Broughton road both old and new, not just the lights opposite the Avon. The roads have become very fast so even a lower speed restriction could be put in place.
- Pedestrianising the town is a bad idea in that there is no suitable alternative route through melksham for residents and will effectively cut the town in half and increase pollution due to having to drive further.
- I often read negative comments about illegal use of electric scooters/ people cycling on pavements etc but to me, the biggest danger to our town is the volume and speed of motorised vehicles, and I feel this gets overlooked.
- I live in the Town Centre and my main problems as a pedestrian (as I try not to use the car), are the amount of cyclists and scooters on the pavement. You take your life in your hands walking down Spa Road when the Oak School closes. More thought should be given to cycle paths perhaps across the fields before building a school on the main road. Our green fields are being built on, but no provision for cyclists so they use the pavements.
- Information system for public transport need to help make journey planning and fares easier and bus stop hardware is uninviting with it unclear if timetables are displayed at all whether they are in date.
- Try to set up green walking routes through and around the town. It may not be possible but when new homes are built, insist on a safe route for walking and cycling (kept separate) into town.
- Please don't destroy our beautiful countryside for a pointless bypass and the house building that will follow.

COMMENTS …

- More should be done to remove lorries using the town as a cut through to get to the A350. Particularly on Semington Road a weight limit should be applied as it is in other parts of the town, they drive too fast and causes houses to shake.
- Great town, doing great things, not much I would change!
- At school times we need to look at how to encourage more people to walk and maybe more council lead initiatives to encourage this.
- More dedicated cycle lanes needed. Dangerous on roads due to traffic.
- The number of houses being built isn't proportional to the services required especially medical services. Why aren't builders required to build free medical centres/ schools/ shop premises as part of their permission for building?
- MAJOR CONCERN – we need a Community Hospital to cater for ALL those currently travelling to Bath etc. Development plans for leisure/tourism on the river frontage - financial incentive to leisure businesses (i.e.restaurants/bars) from WC.
- Do not have this bypass.
- If Bath can make themselves a clean air zone why can't melksham town centre?
- I would really like to see public cycle lanes, paths on pedestrian walkways as it is so dangerous & clogged up with people enjoying their walk with children & dogs, for us then to have adults on bikes trying to pass as well as e-scooters.
- Melksham should embrace its natural assets: the K+A canal, its rural character, promote tourism and resist over-development (housing).
- Traffic speeding, Erving up here does noises from some care some motorbikes also the mini motorbikes going along Queensway, also some mini motorbikes speeding through Queensway park, dangerous for elderly and children , disabled persons going through these areas , making it dangerous to cross the main parts of the road.
- You have to address all the roundabouts. It's dangerous for cycling etc.

“The moment we enter a village or city we cross the threshold from traffic world into social world. Here the motorist is welcomed as a guest in the social world, but they can no longer behave as they did in the traffic world.”