Appendix 2: Summary of consultation responses - Question 4

Q4 Which Land Exchange Option are you in favour of?

- Option 1. Wetherby Road Land next to the War memorial (246) 81%
- Option 3. Arthurs Avenue verges (45) 15%
- Option 2. St James Drive verges (14) 5%

Please explain the reason(s) for your choice below or make any other comments you feel may be appropriate

The reasons 81% felt Option 1 was the preferred option can be summarise as follows:

- Most sensible / logical reason to form a continuous community resource
- Closest to the Stray
- Seems already part of the Stray and adds value to the Stray
- Most amenity value
- Most equally advantageous in terms of health, recreation and enjoyment, provides more meaningful usable open space than grass verges

Officer response

Officers agree with the comments made below and hence why option 1 was put forward as HBC's preferred option.

The reasons 5% felt Option 2 was the preferred option can be summarised as follows:

- Green verges should be protected for amenity of the area.
- Option 1 appears as part of the Stray already, and therefore does not require additional protection.
- High quality street scene & and is part of the Conservation area

Officer response

Option 1 is not part of the Stray already. Whilst option 2 would be acceptable it is not HBC's preferred option.

The reasons 15% felt Option 3 was the preferred option can be summarised as follows:

- Closest to the cycle route
- Traffic is busy around Arthurs Avenue
- Enhancement of safety for the Grammar School
- Deter people parking on the grass verges

Officer response

Officer do not agree that designation of this land as public open space would deter people from walking on grass verges the other points are well made. However option 1 is HBC's preferred option.

Disagree comments in relation to Q4 can be summarised as follows:

- Not wanting the Otley Road verges removed
- The Stray should not be disrupted for cyclists
- Felt new grass needs to be created
- Questioned the validity of the options
- Questioned the need for the cycle route.

Officer response

All comments have been taken into account and reviewed by officers. The business case for the cycleway was developed during the bid for funding and the identification of the 3 options was carried out in liaison with the Duchy of Lancaster and NYCC.

Comments were also received in relation to the questionnaire only having the 3 land exchange options in Q4 with no option to say 'none of the above options' was a flaw in the survey.

Officer response

Q4 is purely about the 3 land exchange options. We had already given people the opportunity in Q3 about whether they agree to the exchange of Stray land to one of the three land exchange options. We have also given them opportunity to provide a free text response within the questionnaire.