

# The Abbey Quarter

Placecheck Report 2008



Tower

----- MONKS ROAD -----

Stamp End



# Spring 2008



## Abbey Quarter Placecheck

A record of what we like and dislike about our own neighbourhood with ideas for making it a better place.



# WALKABOUT

**Abbey Quarter Placecheck 2008 kicked off in April with three Walkabouts, each starting at the Arboretum Gates and ending with a debriefing session over coffee**



One group outside the café ready to set out. All three Walkabouts ended with a de-briefing session over coffee

Acknowledgements to:

- ▶ LCDP, for friendly guidance and continuing support
- ▶ Churches in Society, for a grant to fund this report
- ▶ Walmer Street Church Hall for hosting MRNI Public Meetings with out which this enterprise would not have got off to such a good start
- ▶ All those who took part

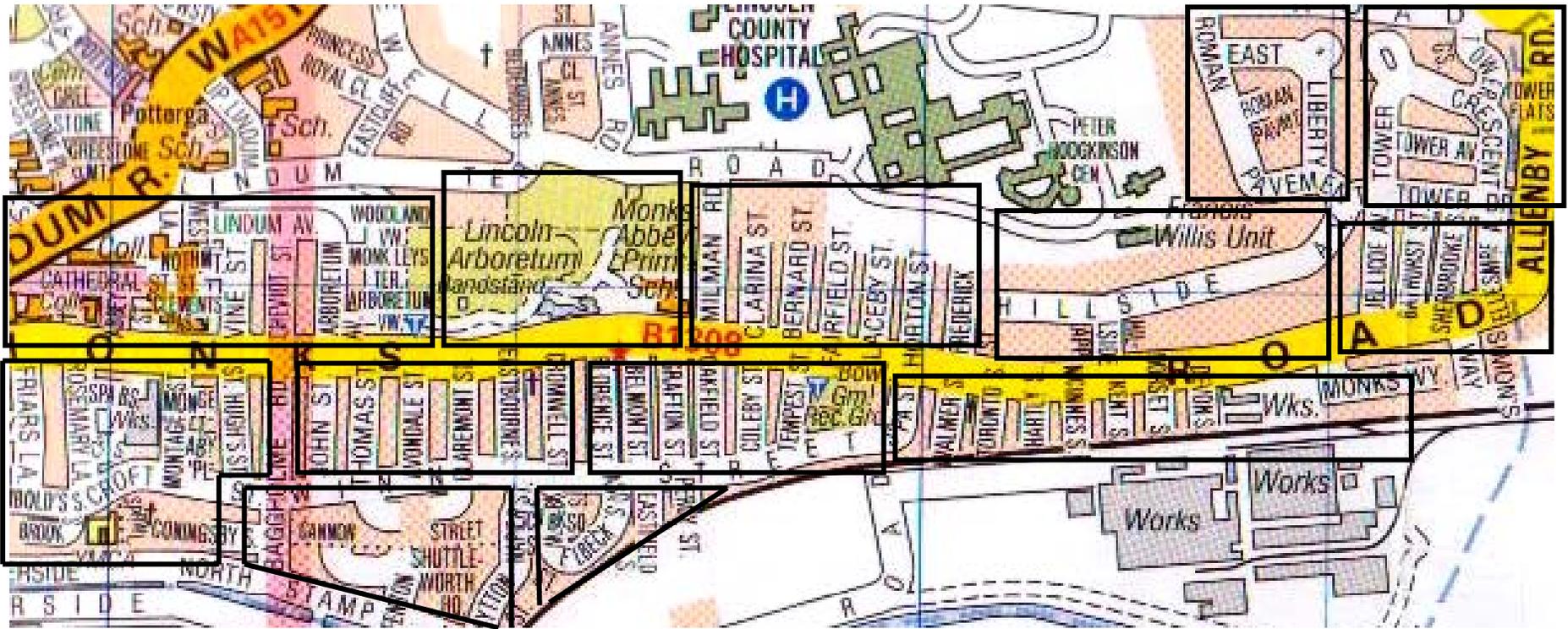
*Helpful publications:*

- ▶ **Streetscape Design Manual** (*Lincolnshire County Council*)
- ▶ **Save Our Streets** (*English Heritage and the WI*)
- ▶ **CTZ Report** (*Highways*)

*Abbey Quarter Placecheck is an MRNI enterprise*

*Thanks to all who came along!*

You took over 800 photographs and filled 70+ pages with your likes, dislikes and (best of all) your ideas for making things better!



The first task was to define the area; then to divide it into manageable chunks. We settled for 12—the Arboretum making up a baker’s dozen.

Three Walkabouts were arranged:  
 Wednesday 2 April at 6.00pm  
 Saturday 5 April at 2.00pm  
 Saturday 12 April at 10.30am

Over thirty people turned up to take part. Working in twos and threes, this was enough to cover the area.

The children’s walkabout took place in July

*Those surveying streets above Monks Road would take in the north side of Monks Road, those surveying streets below would take in the south side. Similarly with Winn Street.*

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# Monks Road—Gateway to the Abbey Quarter

Entry impeded by traffic—45,000 vehicles an hour streaming down the most polluted corridor in the city. Why is so little being done to reduce one-in-a-car travel?



## Likes ✓

Small shops, handy, quaint, cheery, exotic ...a pity so many lie empty

Young people—students, and families walking children to and from school

Familiar friendly faces

The mix of voices, languages, dress ...



*A welcome splash of colour*

It's a stone's throw from the Cultural Quarter, & within walking distance of most other amenities

Improved timing on the pedestrian lights at bottom of Lindum Hill makes walking to the city centre less frustrating

The one-way system now operating on Clasketgate also means it's a more pleasant walk into town



Trees at intervals along the way

Increasingly home to professional people, the Abbey Quarter no longer deserves its label as a 'poor' area. It's time our council appreciated this place with its Abbey, the Arboretum, the Witham—all within a 10-minute walk from the City Centre. What with that and the National Cycle Route running through its midst, who needs a car?



First impressions on entering Monks Road on foot are not good.

## X Dislikes

Unattractive pavements

Confusing lights on the new Pelican crossing near the junction

Crossing Monks Road—hazardous

It's a bad junction for cyclists  
*Too much traffic, too much traffic, too much traffic...*

Turning into Monks Road on the lower side, a pedestrian comes face to face with the end of a crumbling concrete wall juxtaposed with a gilt-knobbed handrail and a rusty bit of black and white metal...

*Welcome to our neighbourhood!*



... then, really dull conversion from shop to accommodation. Now a dead corner, its only function seems to be as a backdrop to street signs.

*This does not warm the heart.*

## What would make it better?

- ▶ A clamp-down on pavement parking
- ▶ Footpath improvements
- ▶ A 20 mph speed limit
- ▶ Take steps to reduce traffic NOW—without waiting for the Eastern Bypass (although rocketing fuel prices may do the trick more quickly!)
- ▶ A one-way system for vehicles, with a contraflow allowing for 2-way cycling

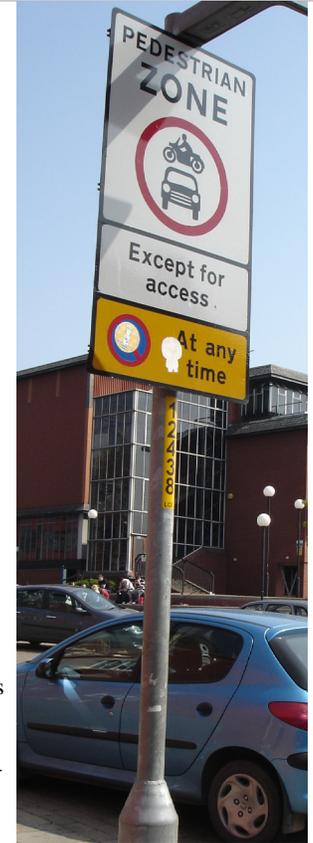
*Providing adequately for cyclists could help reduce pavement cycling.*

**AIR QUALITY** Under the 1995 Environment Act Lincoln City is required to review and assess air quality. Two of the monitoring locations are in our area—one at the junction of Monks Road and Rosemary Lane, the other at the Abbey Medical Practice.

Graphs show a downward trend in average levels of nitrogen dioxide at both locations, and that since 2005 the air quality objective has been met.

# Monks Road—traffic and the pedestrian

*This is the approach to our glorious Arboretum from the city centre*



## When is a Pedestrian Zone not a Pedestrian Zone?

The newly splayed, nicely bricked area was fine, at first. Pedestrians assumed priority; motorists obliged.

Then white dotted lines appeared. Right away, road rules prevailed.

Now a vehicle-dominant space, this zone is less pedestrian-friendly than it was in the first place!

Even if the lines wear off it's unlikely that motorists' habits will turn round to favour the pedestrian.



## Watch your step!

Trip hazards on the Pedestrian Zone—dislodged bricks.

*Quality paving the length of Monks Road would be welcome on a street so heavy with foot traffic—preferably with causeways at side-streets, à la Portland Street, off the High Street.*

The crossing near the junction is puzzling—green one side, red the other! To a waiting pedestrian it looks as if cars are jumping the lights. Either that or the Green Man's on strike.

As long as a motorist leaves a 39-inch gap (we're told by a Traffic Warden) a warden is powerless to move it on. So it's okay for a van to hog a busy pavement and to straddle double yellow lines? And what about damage caused to kerbs, drains, and other services underground?

*Each year in the UK over 80 pedestrians are killed by cars mounting pavements.* !

## What would make it better?

- ▶ Turn the road hierarchy on its head. Consider the needs of pedestrians first, cyclists second, bus passengers third and the private motorist fourth—as they do in York, for instance.
- ▶ The promised ban on HGVs will help
- ▶ So would a 20 mph speed limit

20's plenty

- ▶ Some cities have already adopted a 20 mph speed limit in residential areas.
- ▶ Portsmouth has gone further, with a 20 mph limit right across the town.
- ▶ In the interests of safety, especially for our children, other cities are gearing up to follow suit. *Is Lincoln up for this?*

# Monks Road—Lincoln College



The first photo was taken as part of our first Placecheck in 2002. Then, the college was looking in a sorry state—but improving. The car park had just been landscaped, with lawns, seats, steps, shrubs and trees. Yet, despite an ample number of new bins, an appalling amount of litter was strewn about.

Since then, the old 60s building has undergone a face lift, a real boost to those who walk past every day. Amazingly, even litter seems to have been brought under control!

“Dingy surroundings turn folk sour.”



Just across the road: a terrace much improved since the last Placecheck but still wanting. It's a pity the Boundary Wall Project planned for the south side, which proved so popular on the north side, will not now include these properties.

## Lincoln College *Before and After*



**Most railings have a purpose.**

This one, however, appears to have no purpose at all—except perhaps to serve as an example of unnecessary street furniture for those whose mission it is to de-clutter our streets?



This beautifully restored building just a few doors along shows what fine houses we have in our midst.



The old Tradex building opposite, cause of many a traffic jam along Monks Road, has been taken over by the college, and the warehouse-type building renovated.

► A few trees and plants would help soften the stark newness of the railings.

# Lincoln College to the Arboretum

## ✓ Likes

- Proximity to the Arboretum
- Trees at top of road
- Wooden bay windows
- Decorative brickwork
- Cast iron railings
- White street lighting
- Improved corner shop



With Residents Parking Schemes, cars rarely park on pavements. Vine Street is an exception ... →



Houses with a superb view of the Arboretum—one by one being restored after years of neglect, in turn promising to present an attractive aspect when viewed from the park

Architectural curiosities abound...

Why the Lincoln City Crest over the doorway of every house in Cheviot Street?



Why the recess above the window on this gable?



Green urban space at the tops of streets offering a refreshing uphill view of trees from each of the lower streets.

*Pity about the bog-standard retaining brick walls!*



## X Dislikes

Litter in gutters—mechanical sweeper can't get at it because of parked cars



In the cul de sac: a full skip and dumped rubbish—a fine approach to our lovely park, Green Flag winner and a *Good Place to have a Picnic!*



Cars on pavements—despite double yellow lines and a Parking Scheme in place!

Backs of houses on Monks Road: a grim outlook from the cul de sac tucked behind



An unwanted settee upturned in a forecourt (yet the council runs a free collection service!)

## What would make it better?

- ▶ Revert to a road sweeper with broom and shovel
- ▶ Promote *Stop the Drop*, the 2008 anti-litter campaign
- ▶ Pick up other people's litter to pop in the nearest bin
- ▶ Promote the council's free collection service
- ▶ Encourage use of *Free Cycle* to dispose of unwanted furniture



- ▶ Improve hand rails at top of steep streets
- ▶ Plant shrubs on patches of waste ground
- ▶ Create a side entrance worthy of our Arboretum

Who owns these paths?

Who's responsible for their upkeep?

What can be done when the forecourt wall of an empty house collapses into a busy pavement?



A self-seeded ash bursting through bricks



# The Arboretum & Fosters Field—a green haven on our doorstep



The café was open. We had ice cream and it was lovely.



We worked very hard and we all worked together.



I often see workmen in the park. They work very hard.

The bank above the terrace is a nature reserve. Grass is mown only after wild flowers have seeded. Like the meadow by the school, the ragged softness balances the neat formality of lawns and flower beds.



## ✓ Likes



The Lion  
The little lions on the steps  
The flowers  
The squirrels



The bandstand  
The lamp posts  
Magnolia tree  
Space to play

A  
treasured  
green  
space



Coronation Garden

Fencing and brickwork round the park  
Maps & information boards

Ducks  
The maze  
The fountains  
The play area  
The wooden

Blossom on trees  
Lots of seats  
Birds singing  
Bluebells  
Wild flowers

I like the wooden tree seat best!

## X Dislikes

Dog poo when people don't clean it up

Damage to maze in the middle

It feels like you are in the country—until you hear the speeding cars and bumpy lorries going past

Traffic may disturb the animals!

Don't like the hut—it's got gates on and ugly yellow signs saying "Anti-climb paint"

Someone has picked some daffodils and put them by a tree.

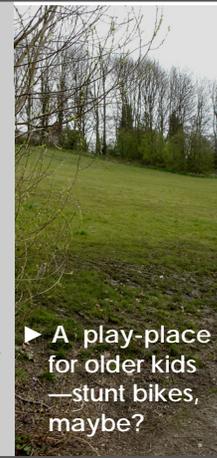
## ? What would make it better?

- ▶ A little bit of the maze is damaged—needs repairing
- ▶ Make better drainage on the middle walkway—it can be very slippery and dangerous
- ▶ Fine people who drop litter and let their dogs foul the grass.
- ▶ Use the security cameras
- ▶ More bins in the summer and at busy times
- ▶ 20mph speed limit

## Fosters Field



With play areas set up at the Abbey Ruins and in the Coronation Garden, swings and climbing frames were removed Fosters Field, leaving empty green space, featureless and under-used (except by dog walkers) and with a rough stony path.



▶ A play-place for older kids—stunt bikes, maybe?

The field was gift to the City for community use. However, the lower part was fenced off for the school—on condition it could be used by other local groups during out-of-school hours.

No one begrudged the children the green space, but why was the condition never met? Has it been forgotten? (The matter is being looked into.)

# Milman Road to Frederick Street

## ✓ Likes

Amazing perspectives  
Nice houses

Lovely views across the Arboretum from Milman Road and across the Abbey Ruins from Bernard Street and Fairfield Street



Architectural features/windows/doorways  
Cast iron railings whose patterns differ from street to street, from house to house

Decorative brickwork

Charming lay-out of gardens, top of Clarina Street and Bernard Street



An old cart on a rooftop—a curious and quaint (if accidental) landmark



Empty hospital, at top of Milman Road—waste of lovely building

► Could usefully be turned into flats, perhaps?



## X Dislikes

Too many parked cars on Milman Road

A plethora of satellite dishes on some streets

Potentially lovely little front gardens left in a state of neglect



*Streets with TO LET signs are markedly shabbier than those displaying FOR SALE signs.*



This splash of paint has been here so long the lid is embedded in the tarmac.

Once a corner shop, now blank and faceless—as with many such conversions.



The NO CYCLING sign implies the nearby path is a useful cycle link.

► Upgrade for shared use?



Milman Road is a link in Sustrans' National Cycle Network.

Cycle Route 1 runs from Edinburgh down the east side of Britain. It crosses Lincoln from Nettleham Road to Stamp End.

This section, from Hull to Harwich, is a favourite of cyclists from the Low Countries.

► Cycle signs pointing to the delightful Arboretum Café (with its sturdy cycle stands) seem appropriate.

## What would make it better?

- Advice and incentives to encourage the upkeep of small front gardens
- Allow parking on one side of Milman Road only
- Upgrade the Pelican Crossing at the bottom of Fairfield Street to a Toucan Crossing for cyclists using the signed route from Tower to the City Centre
- Residents' Parking

*The Green Man took six seconds to appear when timed by Placecheckers on Walkabout*

**"The streets belong to us. Let's make them something to be proud of."**

*Save our Streets*

# The cycle/footpath (Milman Road to Frederick Street)

## ✓ Likes

Views of Canwick & green spaces  
Wide space at top of Fairfield Street where a bomb fell

The quietness—you wouldn't think you were in a city

Wild flowers

The trees arching over the road at Fairfield Street



The last English Elms in Lincoln

*Thanks to a campaign run by householders nearby, this passageway was given a neat tarmac surface a few years ago. Later, the Community Travel Zone upgraded the stretch from Fairfield Street to Hillside to become a cycleway with back gardens on one side, hospital grounds on the other, a traffic-free route linking the Tower Estate to the town centre.*

## X Dislikes

Litter & dog mess  
Cigarette butts dropped by smokers

Two cycle signs on the same signpost:

*End of Cycle Route To City Centre*

A little confusing?



## What would make it better?

- ▶ A bench between top of Frederick Street and Laceby Street
- ▶ A tidy-up of the whole area
- ▶ A proper gate into the hospital grounds
- ▶ A fag-butt bin



- ▶ Better lighting along the narrow passageway
- ▶ Widen the passageway so cyclists can ride through
- ▶ Litter bins along the footpath—at the top of each street,



- ▶ Street signs at the tops of streets as well as the bottom, so that walkers and cyclist on the path know where they are
- ▶ Grit bins too would be more useful at the tops of the streets than at the bottom



Thriving on rough ground (amid litter):

- ✓ Violets
  - ✓ Periwinkle
  - ✓ Forget-me-nots
  - ✓ Yellow Archangel
- and the promise of butterflies to come!



This plot of ground next to the passageway is For Sale.

The proposed plan is not in keeping with its surroundings. The passageway will be overshadowed and a patch of urban wilderness lost.

- ▶ Why not allotments? They're in demand now more than ever—with a waiting list.



*Coveted grit box at bottom of street!*

*As part of the Viking Way this pathway deserves care and attention*



## Hillside Avenue Hillside Approach

### ✓ Likes

Views  
Free of litter  
Gardens well kept  
Properties maintained  
Litter bins well used



Dog bins emptied regularly  
New lighting  
Feel safe at night

### X Dislikes

Being a through-road from Tower Estate, it's plagued by:  
speeding cars  
off-road bikes  
jobs pushing walls down

### What would make it better?

- ▶ More police patrols
- ▶ Re-lay paved footpaths
- ▶ A Neighbourhood Office
- ▶ Youth facilities

*This would have a good knock-on effect*

## Jellicoe Avenue to Ellesmere Avenue

### ✓ Likes

#### Jellicoe Avenue

Houses fairly well kept  
A feeling of community spirit amongst residents

#### Sherbrooke Street

Clean, tidy properties  
No litter

#### Bathurst Street

Clean, free of litter  
Footpaths fine  
Clean homes, well cared for  
Every garden immaculate  
Wonderful!

#### Ellesmere Avenue



Well-kept Victorian houses

*Many people observed how quickly a sense of well-being can change, just turning from one street into the next.*

### X Dislikes



Rubbish in front gardens



Collapsed wall at bottom corner of Sherbrooke Street



Broken kerbs



Private road in front of Ellesmere Avenue

"When a roadside or other public area becomes visibly degraded, by law it must be cleaned up within 60 hours at the most. In practice, many areas are not cleaned up within 60 months."

*(Stop the Drop)*

*What does the law say when garden rubbish degrades the street?*

The issue of footpaths and verges was dealt with at June's Public Meeting.

We were assured that kerbs will be tidied up and trees pruned.



*The last time pavements were "tidied up" black plastic was put down to protect drain covers but NEVER REMOVED—just left to rot! How tidy is that?*



▶ Could the council adopt?

## East Liberty, Roman Pavement

✓ Likes



Flowers in the gardens  
Trees  
The little green  
The paths



? What would make it better?

- ▶ Close the park at night
- ▶ Add some lights
- ▶ Street cleaners

### Roman Pavement

*In 1880, during ironstone quarrying, Roman mosaics came to light and a villa, with a pavilion 87 metres long, was unearthed. The find was recorded by the quarry manager, who took the trouble draw a plan of the villa.*

X Dislikes



Board up windows—seven on this patch!

Phone box often smashed

Street signs need replacing

Bus signs missing

Litter on roadside

Cars on pavements—people can't get past!

Bus signs missing



*Grievances about cars parked on verges and footpaths cropped up in all quarters.*

Findings from the current Community Travel Zone questionnaires confirm that pavement parking is a city-wide aversion.

## Tower Crescent to Tower Drive

✓ Likes



Play area for children  
Ball Court



New bins  
Nice greenery  
Trees  
Well kept front gardens

? What would make it better?

- ▶ More Urban Rangers
- ▶ Drop-in centre for young people
- ▶ Flatten the grass so we can play
- ▶ Lock the park at night
- ▶ Lighting at night
- ▶ New street signs
- ▶ New gates
- ▶ A place for people to meet—there's only a house and shop.

X Dislikes

Unkempt gardens  
Hardly ever see Urban Ranger



Big mound of grass in park makes it hard to play ball games

Cars parked on pavements and grass verges



Dingy walls

Neglected street signs



# Waterside North & Friars Lane to Baggeholme Road

✓ Likes

The newly painted fbridge



Applause to those who prettify the outside of their homes with plants for others to see, but who themselves have to suffer a dreary view of parked cars.



What would make it better?

- ▶ Make better use of riverside
- ▶ Repair potholes & footpaths
- ▶ Create new footpaths where there are none

✗ Dislikes

Unrepaired road—deadly to cyclists  
What could be recreational riverside space given over to parked cars!



Brook Street—a forgotten, quiet cul de sac



Dismal wall at closed end and an equally dismal view from the other—a car park!



Corner:  
Waterside North  
Baggeholme Road

Placecheck 2002 asked "Why are we kept out of this green space?"  
Hitherto it had been open to the road, with seats, like a miniature park.

*The question still applies.*



Presumably this patch of ground is owned by the Environment Agency?



✓ Likes

YMCA: nice to have a gym on our doorstep

Croft Street Centre—good for the occasional cultural event, without having to battle across Broadgate traffic



St Hughs Street—very quiet

New flats behind the old Wesleyan School

Rosemary Lane Graveyard with its smart new bins—but why do people still litter the grass?



✗ Dislikes

Battered signage  
Very short bike lane—use?  
Broken toilet on graveyard  
Dog dirt on the graveyard (despite dog bins)  
Stuff left by drinkers on steps of Baptist Church



NCP Car Park—an eyesore



What would make it better?

- ▶ Put dog bins on every street
- ▶ A shelter for wheelie bins for elderly council tenants
- ▶ If we must have car parks, please let's design them with human beings in mind!
- ▶ Do something with Kerr Pattern Co.



What's happening to the barricaded wasteland by the Friar's Lane car park?

General Comments  
John Street to Cromwell Street



Where so many wires fan out from one pole (normally leaning) you get the impression of archaic industrial revolution stuff left to rot

These should be renewed or updated with a more sympathetic pole support.

Every house on the west side of each street sports a satellite dish—upsetting to the eye and spoiling a view of the of houses

Why not a communal aerial, as in blocks of flats, where the council pays initially then each householder pays a share of the cost?



On some of these streets several households share one passage. This causes rubbish problems. Rather than trail bins on the long journey back, people leave them on their frontages or at the roadside. Sporadically, black rubbish bags pile up

*Wheelie bins have made this place into a rubbish site!*

► Bin men used to fetch the bins from the back and then return them. Perhaps this should be reinstated?

John Street and Thomas Street		
<p>Likes</p> <p>✓</p>	<p><b>John Street</b></p>  <p>Good view across valley Attractive oriel window Modern terraces in keeping—no clash Colour-wash on terrace houses—good continuity Residents Parking</p>  <p><i>Dog and Bone tickety-boo!</i></p>  <p>Lovely sign!</p>	<p>Thomas Street</p>  <p>Modern &amp; original housing sit well together Pleasant garden area Residents Parking Trees &amp; front gardens Nice views from both ends</p>  <p>Car park with trees and shrubs against wall</p> <p><i>Steam Hammer</i> smartly painted, attractive sign</p>
<p>Dislikes</p> <p>X</p>	<p>Gable-end view of flats at bottom of street Untidy backs of businesses on Monks Road Outbuilding could use a lick of paint Some houses need colour-wash freshened up Car park not as good as that on Thomas Street <i>More a lane than a street—but parking?</i></p>	 <p>Corner plots at top end dominated by garages <i>Steam Hammer</i> car park on Winn Street—a tarmac wasteland!</p>
<p>What would</p>	<p>► Take some tips from Thomas Street Car Park: think plants!</p> 	<p>► When back in use, let's hope the <i>Steam Hammer</i> retains its sign and uses the car park area to enhance the attractive building</p>  <p>► More litterbins on all roads ► New road surface</p> 

## Avondale Street

### ✓ Likes

Wide street  
View of Arboretum  
Attractive hedging on NE corner  
3-storey flats suit the scale of the street.



### ✗ Dislikes

View of Shuttleworth House—ugh!  
Dour wooden fencing on NW property  
Dustbins outside flats look a disaster  
Two modern square bays out of kilter  
Disused corner shop



### ? What would make it better?

► Paint Shuttleworth House—make it look cared for



- Railing replacement programme?
- Dustbin service area within flat complex
- Rates exemption for anyone using as shop



"The importance of public parks cannot be measured. Parks are essential to a city's happiness."  
*Great Parks Conference 2001*

In the heart of the city and within easy reach of our terraced streets: space to relax, greenery to cherish.

## Claremont Street

### ✓ Likes

View of bandstand—cool  
Corner shop in use  
Nice rows of Victorian terraces with arches to their front entrances

### ✗ Dislikes

Street goes across to Cannon Street flats, different character and not a good view from top half

Window boarded—appears to be temporary



### What would make it better?

- Re-name the part south of Winn Street to give it its own character
- More police patrols and efforts to catch culprits

## Eastbourne Street

### ✓ Likes

The Arboretum close by—greenery, wildlife, space...  
All Saints Church—great landmark; needs protecting  
Lovely tree in blossom in a back garden



Church: little belfry tower and stone arched entrance

Charming runs of Edwardian/Victorian terraces

Oriel windows on modern block  
View of Cannon Street flats and Lombardy poplars



### ✗ Dislikes

Street lamp in front of church west end is ugly, not in keeping with the imposing building nor is the green cable box in front of the excellent stone arched entrance.

Boundary walls have been replaced with all sorts of things over the years, ranch fencing and breeze block come to mind! This street is a particular culprit.

### ? What would make it better?

- Get street light changed—PLEASE
- Re-site the green cable box—VANDALS!
- Flats would be a better view if given pitched roofs so that they blend with the area's architecture

## Cromwell Street



✓ Likes

The 3-storey terraces look good, even though they front right on to the street despite bay windows on ground floors

View of the Arboretum

To the south, a view of terrace houses of the same era—better than a view of the flats



All Saints Church on the corner

✗ Dislikes

The light leaded glass window (presumably above the altar) is filthy from pollution

Rendering on house fronts does not work here as it does in John street where there was continuity of approach

### What would make it better?

- ▶ More street lights
- ▶ More green stuff in side streets
- ▶ More litter bins
- ▶ New road surface
- ▶ Wheelie-bins out of sight
- ▶ Better, more attractive footpaths
- ▶ Keep the cars off our pavements

## Monks Road continued ...

✓ Likes

A mixture of shops, all of long standing, some stone properties among them



Some of the best houses: arched window panes and doorways, handsome bay windows on second floor—real gems!

Pity about the array of wheelie-bins lined up and jostling for space on the tiny forecourts

They must have a phenomenal view of th Arboretum

The curve of the road: a welcome break in this very long thoroughfare

The charming hedged footpath with stone pillars alongside the Arboretum

All Saints Church—excellent building, not valued

The Arboretum Lodge, its community facilities—and especially the café



✗ Dislikes

This main thoroughfare cuts our community in half—with no consideration from motorists passing through. More insulting because of architecturally good houses.

Ruined by wheelie-bins and poor flats and poor building maintenance

This is what motorists notice on their way through. No wonder they think we are 'rough'. Judge a book by its cover.

Some lack of continuity of style to shop fronts. One stone property whitewashed.

### ? What would make it better?

- ▶ Railing replacement—already planned—will help
- ▶ More control on landlord/multiple occupancy house AS IN SCOTLAND
- ▶ In front of Arboretum and the school—block pave the road with yellow bricks so drivers understand that this is a CHILD BUSY AREA
- ▶ Planning control in future
- ▶ Plastic guttering could be painted black
- ▶ Modern street furniture re-sited
- ▶ Monks Road calmed, to give it its frontage back



# Florence Street to the Abbey Ruins



✓ Likes

New bus stops  
Simple terrace streets  
Warm red brick  
The Abbey Play Area nearby  
New bus stops  
View of greenery at top and bottom of almost every street



Elegant row of houses looking across the Abbey ruins



✗ Dislikes



Cars parked on pavements

Pavement parking turns what should be open and friendly walking space into a closed, murky kind of alleyway.

Abbey ruins  
Green space  
The park for kids  
Basketball court  
Bowling green  
The Time Line

✓ Likes



It's within easy walking distance for lots of people  
Smart new bins, seats, cycle stands and gates



Royal Blue for the fencing round the Ball Court was the colour democratically voted for by local school children.



✗ Dislikes

It's for basketball only  
The fence round the ruins  
Lack of a ladies' toilet  
Dogs and dog mess  
Can't lock bike to bike stand



Placecheckers were alarmed to find bits of blue fencing had come adrift. NOT vandalism, as it turned out. The fencing had merely suffered the sort of battering one would expect on a Ball Court—the wham of a football.

*Verdict: fencing unfit for purpose*



A Residents' Parking Scheme operates on all side-streets to Claremont Street.

The bulk of residents in that block voted for the scheme. Those in subsequent blocks voted against—despite huge advantages.

▶ Perhaps those who already benefit from Residents Parking could do a better job of selling the idea to the sceptics?

▶ Tackle pavement parking, an increasingly serious issue—and illegal!



Despite this notice, dogs often run round the play area.

## What would make it better?

▶ Either put a permanent fence round the ruins, or not at all. It's lasted this long—is a fence really needed?

▶ Better toilets—one for ladies too, please!

▶ A tennis court ▶ A putting green

▶ A ban on dogs

There was talk of making this park a dog-free zone. Then dog bins were installed...



*How can we expect improvements to our pavements when they're routinely being broken up by vehicles encroaching on them?*

## Spa Street to Dorset Street

### ✓ Likes

Plenty of dog bins at bottom of Spa Street  
Most houses in character with each other



Walmer Street Church—architecture and windows  
Street signs, especially those high on house walls  
Nicely kept houses  
Nice gables  
Trees along edge  
Modern street lighting  
Large old house at bottom



### ✗ Dislikes



Ugly spiky fencing & pylons  
Tatty sign/paintwork (Ace)  
Full bin! Plastic bags in trees!  
Graffiti on service boxes  
Lots of sky dishes  
Bad pavements on alleys

### What would make it better?



- ▶ Incentives for home owners and shopkeepers to make their fronts more pleasing
- ▶ More greenery to screen the pylons
- ▶ Take the old bus stop down!

### ▶ 20mph speed limit on Monks Road

20's Plenty is a national campaign for a 20mph limit on all residential roads as default. A case would then have to be made for raising the limit, not the other way round, as now.

## Devon Street to Monks Way

### ✓ Likes

Houses, bungalows, gates  
Trees/nice gardens  
New bus stop  
Modern street lighting  
Lots of dog bins  
Handy cut-through

### ✗ Dislikes

Shame about the view downhill  
Shabby houses on Monks Road  
Corner cake shop tatty  
Wouldn't like to live next to the railway when cargo goes past—very smelly!



### What would make it better?

- ▶ Improvement to pathways
- ▶ Cheap and frequent public transport so fewer people would need to use cars
- ▶ Double yellow line on Monks Road so that cyclists can use the road more safely
- ▶ At 2.5 metres wide, Monks Way is wide enough to be upgraded for shared cycle/pedestrian use



These Poplars screen monumental eyesores



### Tree Preservation Order?

The line of Lombardy Poplars was singled out in our previous 2002 Placecheck as worthy of a Preservation Order. Enquiry revealed that an order was not needed, since, at that time, the trees were not under threat.

Now, however, with development on the cards, the trees are at risk. As a result of this Placecheck, a TPO is now being sought.

*Lombardy Poplars in themselves may not be deserving of a TPO, but the amenity value afforded to so many terrace streets*

# Cannon Street

# Shuttleworth House

# Lytton Street

# Stamp End



## ✓ Likes

Trees down centre of walkway  
Shuttleworth House—views must be tremendous!



Glass fronted balconies, so you can see out when seated in summer

Shuttleworth House dominates the area—but for how long? If demolished, would updated versions take its place?

In Glasgow, such towers have been updated. Additions of roofs that hide service machinery, large glass-fronted porches, attractive railings, and on-site concierges have made a huge difference.



The two tower blocks, staggered to break the line  
Convenient for walking into the city  
River frontage



The river at Stamp End  
Wildlife, the lock the weir, the boats passing through ...



Corridors offering interesting views

Most towns have developed their river fronts—Sleaford, for example. Sadly, the impression here is of a 'sink hole'.

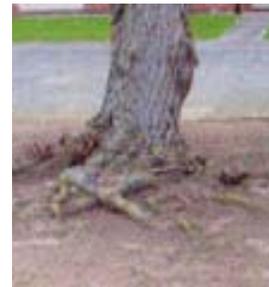
## X Dislikes

Trees missing (Cannon Street)  
Eau de nil (SH) out of keeping—dated  
Desolate terrace  
Car park bleak  
Bins on view



Clayton and Shuttleworth looks under attack—though an excellent frontage

Compacted tree roots



## What would make it better? ?

- ▶ Replace missing trees (cannon Street)
- ▶ Paint Shuttleworth House the same colour as as Cannon Street flats—limestone colour gives continuity with the skyline
- ▶ Build purpose-built shelter for bins
- ▶ Split tower block into public/private housing and private businesses—this could provide for proper reception, a site concierge and maintenance,
- ▶ Café businesses ▶ Leisure activities
- ▶ Green up ▶ Low growing protective shrubs—prickly?



We hope Planning will consider this area sensitively when looking at the proposed development

# Coningsby Street to Napier/Lytton Street

## √ Likes

Flats at far end of Coningsby Street have attractive trees with footpath entrance  
 Attractive view of Environment Agency Building  
 Convenience Store & Chippy—nice to see & use



View right up the hill to Lindum Green



View of trees down Cannon Street helps open out this 'no-man's-land' corner

New windows on flats look good

Trim gardens

Lower Baggholme Road neat & tidy



## X Dislikes

Rubbish  
 Dog dirt  
 Youngsters drinking and swearing makes the place feel bad



Shuttleworth House looks dirty close up  
 Walls in need of fresh paint

Trailer in lay-by—seems to be there permanently!



Broken walls  
 Graffiti  
 Lack of interesting features to inspire the soul!

Dumped bags of rubbish at street corner



Dismal entrance to Coningsby Street. This is the entrance to the Environment Agency—almost their driveway!

Back of Community Centre and old Vicarage uninspiring

## What would make it better?



- ▶ Look after the trees
- ▶ Improve approach to Environment Agency—not good first impression as it stands
- ▶ Paint the bins
- ▶ Put in another seat
- ▶ Create flower beds
- ▶ Put dog bins on every street
- ▶ Repaint the sign
- ▶ Remove graffiti...



...or channel the talents of young graffiti artists into brightening up dreary corners—under the wing of a real artist, perhaps? It's been done successfully elsewhere, and dreary corners are not hard to find.

As one schoolchild taking part in our last Placecheck wrote:  
*"If people were allowed to do it they'd stop wanting to."*



*Lincoln Civic Society supports the idea of decorating utility service boxes as a way of brightening up the street scene*

# Napier Street to Spa Road

## ✓ Likes

### Bentinck Square

Nicely proportioned cul de sac—more like three sides of a square  
Privet hedge a real plus



### Napier Street

Open aspect from Winn Street down to riverbank  
River at the end

### Lytton Street

Trees at corner of Shuttleworth house  
Trees on the river edge



### Shuttleworth House

Terrace on first floor  
View of the cathedral

## X Dislikes

### Bentinck Square

Rather untidy—  
Yet such potential!

### Bentinck Street

Garaging wall and  
waste ground—dismal

### Napier Street

Open aspect ruined by  
“bomb-site” area be-



### Lytton Street

Parking area with recycle bins HORRENDOUS! Like a cleared bomb site. No cars parked! (Wouldn't want to be there after sunset.)



### Shuttleworth House

Bins in garden space  
Terrace not used  
Paintwork on walls patchy  
Railway bridge—tatty  
No pavement river side of road



To reach the Sustrans path you must cross back over the road then back again over the hump-backed bridge: blind and without a footpath.

## What would make it better? ?

- ▶ Pavement trees and some architectural feature would make Bentinck Square a real treat
- ▶ Planting on the waste ground—Boston ivy grown up the back wall of the garages
- ▶ The gateway aspect of Napier Street—down to the river—should be emphasised, with trees on the corner. *There is space!*
- ▶ Pitched roofs on the flats
- ▶ Redesign the “bomb-site” as a play area?
- ▶ Green space?
- ▶ Parking bays with low hedges and trees?
- ▶ Fenced ball-gane space?
- ▶ Formal low-walled garden as a gathering place?
- ▶ Fountain?
- ▶ Give space an identity so people want to go there

### Shuttleworth House

#### ▶ Café to connect up?

- ▶ Bring terrace into use with a riverside café?
- ▶ Plant trees in grassy corners
- ▶ Enclose bins
- ▶ Paint outside walls
- ▶ Sell some of the floors to businesses so stronger voice may keep it in good nick

### Spa Road

- ▶ Road bridge needs maintenance—entry to countryside and cycle-/footpath
- ▶ Put a tree preservation order on the row of Lombardy Poplars

! NATIVE BLACK POPLARS ON SITE OF OLD POWER STATION? ?  
*Should be looked at and accurately identified.*

## Children's Walkabout



LCDP worked with Monks Abbey Primary School to carry out a community walkabout to find out what the children thought about the place where they live.

The children were asked to walk about a designated area, to observe what was there, write this down and take photographs of what they see.

A Year 5 class was divided into 5 groups. These groups walked the area together with their teachers, student teachers and LCDP staff.

The children's own observations, along with photographs taken by them on disposable cameras, are included in this report.

Jack Parkes  
Laura Lynch  
Darryl Smalley  
Cllum Brookes  
Casey Cox  
Emily Bannister  
Oskar Kosmider  
Diana Plikaityte  
Nicole Pickard  
Liam Mumby  
Nigel Tubb-Johnson  
Samantha Thompson  
Acacia Bowler  
Tara Jones  
Alana Johnson  
Piotr W  
Jake Booth  
Katie Ashcroft  
Naomi Reeve  
Connor Gore  
Patrycja Bil  
Pauline Borkoweska  
Chloe Foley  
Ellis Wilders  
Hayley-Beth Hodson  
Harvey Davis  
Nathan Bentley  
Amy Taylor  
Ashlei Beale  
Devi Caampued  
Kornelijus Majeika  
Sophie Barker

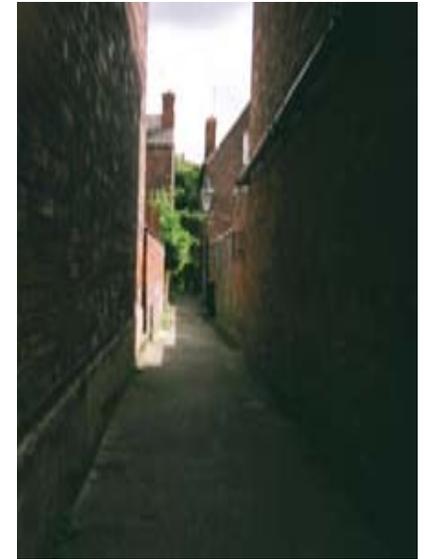
**Thanks, kids! Also thanks to the teachers, students & LCDP staff who came along and made it all happen.**

# Lincoln College to the Arboretum—report & pictures by Year 5 children



## X Dislikes

- X Rusty metal
- X Smells
- X Narrow pavements
- X Smashed windows
- X Posts
- X Electric wires
- X Graffiti—writing on benches
- X Chewing gum on the street
- X Too many wheelie-bins outside houses
- X Litter on streets and pavements
- X Stains on the walls
- X Cigarette stubs on the floor



## ✓ Likes

- ✓ Patterns on the doors
- ✓ Vet's building
- ✓ Views, trees and baskets of flowers
- ✓ Art on car park wall
- ✓ The gate of the Jolly Brewer
- ✓ The smell of fish and chips
- ✓ Patterned railings
- ✓ Recycling bins
- ✓ Design of smoke shelter
- ✓ The lavender house on MonksRoad
- ✓ View of the Cathedral
- ✓ CCTV cameras
- ✓ View of the top of the Arboretum
- ✓ Railings on front of the houses
- ✓ Lovely lamp posts



## ? What would make it better?

- ▶ Different coloured lamp posts in different streets
- ▶ More bins
- ▶ Change rusty posts on the steep hill
- ▶ Paint the benches
- ▶ More rubbish bins
- ▶ Don't litter
- ▶ Fine people £200,000 for littering

# Milman Road to Frederick Street—report and pictures by Year 5 children



√ Likes



✗ Dislikes



- √ Lovely houses
- √ Flowers
- √ Railings
- √ Not busy in the afternoon
- √ Silent road

- √ Nice views
- √ Well painted houses
- √ Nice railings
- √ Lovely bricks and walls
- √ Good footpath

- ✗ Litter on street and in gardens
- ✗ Scrappy window frames
- ✗ Overgrown bushes
- ✗ Dog pooh—flies
- ✗ Old shop—not nice view



What would  
make it better? ?

- ▶ Pick up litter
- ▶ Cut overgrown bushes
- ▶ Clean gardens



## Hillside Avenue & Tower Estate



### Hillside Avenue

✓ Likes



- ✓ Big gardens
- ✓ Driveways & garages
- ✓ Bigger wheelie bins
- ✓ Pretty shrubs and flowers



✗ Dislikes

- ✗ Very steep pathways
- ✗ Very difficult for wheelchairs

### Tower Estate

✓ Likes

#### Jellicoe Avenue

- ✓ People are friendly in the streets
- ✓ Trees - somewhere for the birds to live

#### Bathurst Street

- ✓ Open, clean, wide
- ✓ Good views

✗ Dislikes

#### Jellicoe Avenue

- ✗ Narrow road
- ✗ Lots of cars parked
- ✗ Trees a mess
- ✗ Messy gardens

#### Bathurst Street

- ✗ Bins
- ✗ Smells
- ✗ Blocked pavements

#### Tower Crescent

#### Roman Pavement

#### East Liberty

- ✗ Vandalism
- ✗ No ball games
- ✗ Boarded up houses

## The Arboretum



report & pictures  
by Year 5 children

✓ Likes

- ✓ Nice place—lovely grass
- ✓ Open to everyone—good for picnics
- ✓ Big—it doesn't get too crowded
- ✓ The lion statue
- ✓ Good for a kick-about
- ✓ Good for sun bathing
- ✓ Nature—squirrels, birds, fish, ducks, swans
- ✓ Lovely to walk in
- ✓ Events and things that happen here

✗ Dislikes

- ✗ People drinking
- ✗ Broken glass
- ✗ No swings
- ✗ Graffiti
- ✗ Rubbish in the ponds could hurt the fish
- ✗ Drug dealers
- ✗ Littering
- ✗ Funny people who might kidnap you

? What would  
make it better?

#### Hillside

- ▶ Paths need improving

#### Jellicoe Avenue

- ▶ Make people's gardens better

#### Bathurst Street

- ▶ Put bins in back gardens or designate a bin area
- ▶ Sweep the rubbish up

? What would  
make it better?

- ▶ Graffiti off the bandstand
- ▶ The upper bandstand painted
- ▶ More kids' stuff
- ▶ Toilets open
- ▶ Provide a 'drinking' area
- ▶ Ban drinking in the Arboretum
- ▶ An ice cream shop/van open

## John Street to Tempest Street

### ✓ Likes



- ✓ Different coloured houses
- ✓ Thomas Street is quiet and tidy
- ✓ Pretty houses
- ✓ View of the Arboretum
- ✓ Recycling bins
- ✓ Shop fronts on Monks Road



### ✗ Dislikes

- ✗ Rubbish
- ✗ Boarded up houses
- ✗ Boxes
- ✗ Dead bird
- ✗ The electric house on Thomas Street
- ✗ Graffiti on Thomas Street
- ✗ Graffiti on Winn Street



- ✗ Social club
- ✗ Rendering
- ✗ Horrible caravan
- ✗ Mucky windows
- ✗ Dusty net curtains



? What would make it better?

- ▶ Open the pub and paint it
- ▶ Tidy the gardens on Avondale Street

## Baggeholme Road to Stamp End

### ✓ Likes

- ✓ The trees
- ✓ View
- ✓ Tidy car park and garage on Fenton Place
- ✓ Notice Boards



- ✓ New bollards



### ✗ Dislikes

- ✗ Rubbish in the river
- ✗ Broken signs on Fenton Place
- ✗ Noisy dogs



? What would make it better?

- ▶ Clean up
- ▶ Do something to the car park on Cannon Street



report and pictures  
by Year 5 children

# Spa Street to Monks Way—report and pictures by Year 5 children

## √ Likes

- √ Gardens—pretty colours
- √ Roadway
- √ Alley gates
- √ New homes on Dorset Street



√ Lovely windows on houses



## X Dislikes

- X Cars parked on pavements
- X Dog dirt
- X Busy main road
- X Graffiti
- X Rubbish on path
- X Unsightly area at the back of new houses
- X Loose wires on front of houses



## ? What would make it better?

- √ Benches on Monks Road
- √ Covers on gullies on the paths
- √ Improve the outlook of the factories/workshops behind the new houses



## The cycle/footpath—report & pictures by Year 5 children



? What would make it better?  
▶ Sweep the rubbish up



Dislikes  
X Broken glass  
Dog pooh  
Dumped rubbish





A wheelchair user living on our side of the river wishing to reach Sustrans' off-road track has to trundle all the way back along Waterside North to cross the bridge on Melville Street, then back along Waterside South—both riddled with pot-holes—because not only does the hump-backed bridge lack a footpath, the gradient is too steep!

Developers' plans for the Power Station site include a cycle-friendly bridge and a cycle route into town—good news for wheelchair users and cyclists alike.

# Crossing the Witham



*This pair spotted and recorded by Children of Monks Abbey School*



# Doors & windows



♥ The quirky windows and doors to be seen while walking along Monks Road never cease to surprise and charm the passer-by who happens to glance up—humble windows sporting stained glass, plaster gargoyles, each with its own expression...

# We love trees!



Mature elms just coming into leaf at the Abbey Ruins.

✓ Trees in front gardens add greenery to the streetscape, but they need to be chosen with care of they're not to darken the house when fully grown.



This line of poplars provides a green view for many terrace houses which would otherwise see only pylons. Possibly under threat from development of the old Power Station site. *Tree Preservation Order?*

“Trees are a vital component of the streetscape, providing a major aesthetic contribution to our surroundings. Trees have been used for centuries to enhance buildings, add grandeur to vistas and to soften the harshness of roads. Built environments without trees re hard and relentless. Trees can break monotony in our street environments, and tie those environments back to the landscape. Humans have valued trees for thousands of years and used them for shelter and protection. Trees have major environmental benefits, including giving shade, screening noise and reducing air pollution. Planted and cared for correctly, trees have an extremely important contribution to make to the street environment.”

*In the public consultation of 2006 trees were rated as the most important aspect of an attractive street environment.*

*(Streetscape Manual—Lincolnshire County Council)*



Mature sycamores on Monks Road, causing the pavement to bulge.



All that remains, sadly, of two flowering cherries that added cheer to St Rumbold Street. *Never replaced.*



Outside Lincoln College





Placecheck 2002



### A Round-up of Railings

*Some loved—some hated*

One of the most popular accomplishments in the Renewal Area was, without doubt, the restoration of the boundary walls and railings on the north side of Monks Road.

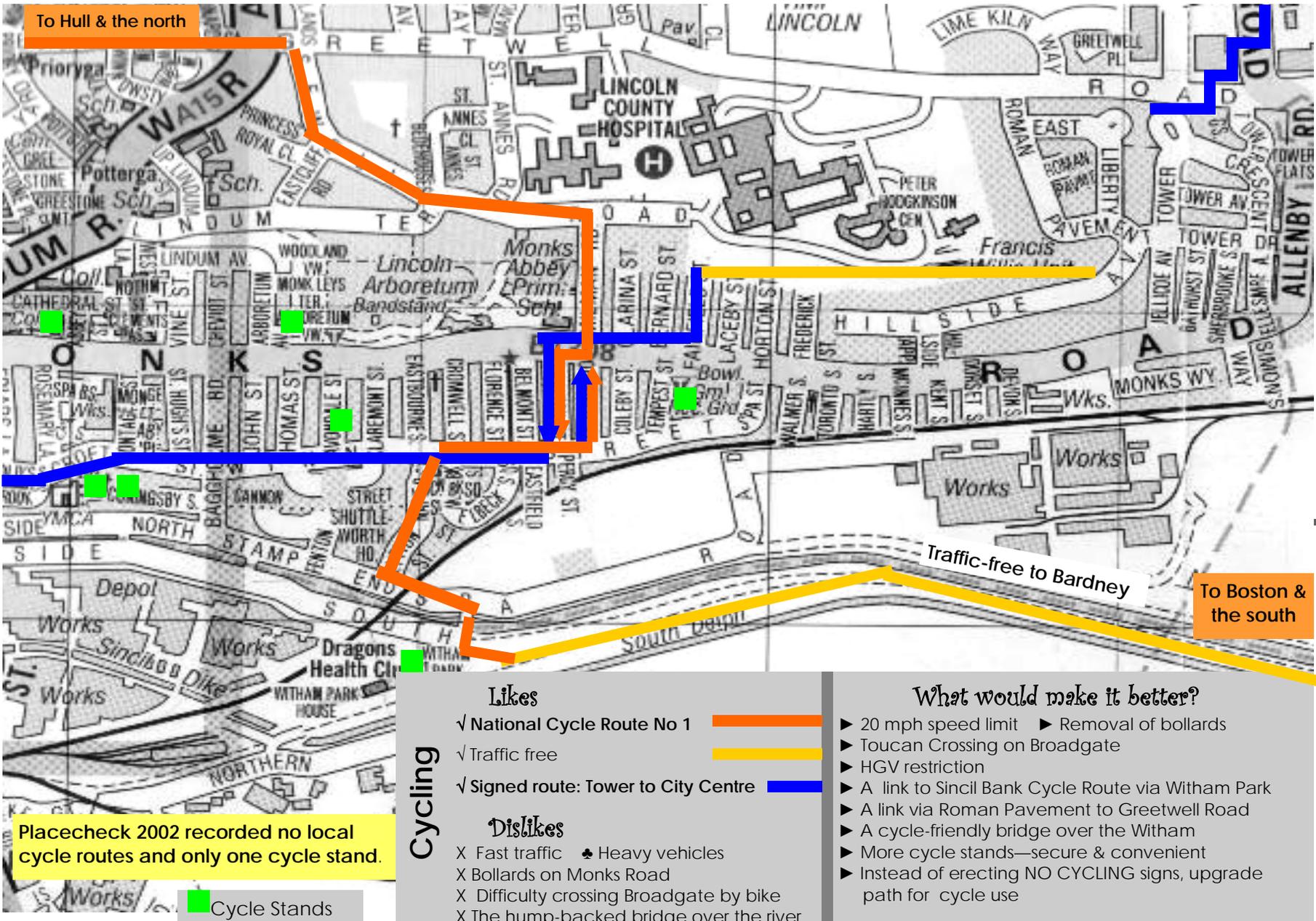
It was sparked off by a scheme on a terrace on Winn Street (above), which pleased passers-by as well as much as the householders.

The scheme is to be repeated on the south side. However, the original plan has been curtailed, so the terrace pictured below will not now be beautified by new railings and walls, alas.



Placecheck 2008





cycleways



Well placed, sturdy, secure—plus it's an attractive spot!



Sturdy and usefully placed, but room for one bike only—and this outside a busy gym!



Beautiful to behold, good location, plenty of slots—but NOT thief-proof. *My guess is, this designer doesn't ride a bike.*

## Cycle Parking

- Most car journeys are under 2 miles long
- If such journeys were made on foot or by bike, traffic congestion would ease at a stroke
- Given a safe place to put a bike, more people would choose to cycle
- Upkeep of car parking space can cost a firm £2000 a year.
- Since 12 bikes can fit into one space many firms give green points to workers who cycle in rather than drive—resulting in generous perks plus mileage allowance

Cycle stands need to be

- ▣ able to support a locked bike
- ▣ as near the entrance as possible
- ▣ in the open where they can be seen
- ▣ adequate in quantity

*Attractive cycle stands are an added delight!*

- students & employees need all-day shelter
- residents need storage space indoors



A bike parked against the Co-op railings despite splendid cycle stands !

Brand new cycle shelter for all-day cover. Perfect!

Good location, sufficient stands.



Well done, that corner shop!

*On the continent even in the smallest village shop will have a cycle stand for those wishing to nip to the shop by bike. (Rare in Britain!)*



Ideal location, close to the entrance but possibly too near the wall to give proper support—and oh, dearie me!



These stands seem to be designed to match the railings, so there's ample scope for securing a bike if the cycle park is full. The shelter





Once centres of social activity at every street corner, these busy little shops put all our daily requirements a short walk from home.

Sadly, most have been converted into blunt street corners—you wouldn't even want to gather there to chat.

Wanted: some truly imaginative way of converting these street corners for the sake of those who live hereabouts.

The Neighbourhood Office achieves this to a degree, but there must be other, more adventurous ways ...



**What happened to corner shops?**

# The Old Power Station

Placecheck 2002



then

X



Derelict for years, singled out as an eyesore on every 2002 Placecheck hit list and demolished soon afterwards.

2008, and the ground is cleared ready

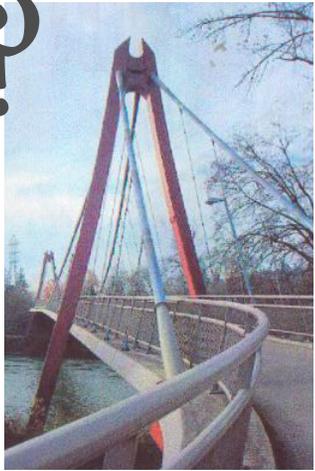
... and the future...

?

"The plans look wonderful. They could really lift that riverside area and transform it into an extremely attractive development.

We do have concerns—flooding is an issue for us, and we want assurance that shops and services will actually materialise. In many developments they are promised but never happen. That aside, the proposals are very exciting."

*Sandra Donnor  
Secretary, Monks Road Neighbourhood Initiative*



An indication of the kind of buildings planned for the site, with cycle/footbridge.

now

!



Placecheck 2008



Before and after

## Monks Road

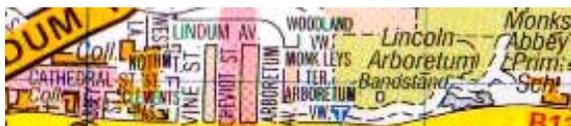
- ▶ Reduce traffic
- ▶ 20 mph speed limit
- ▶ Make footpaths more attractive
- ▶ Cheap and frequent buses
- ▶ Clamp down on pavement parking
- ▶ Create a welcoming approach
- ▶ Consider one-way for vehicles with contraflow for bikes
- ▶ Put the pedestrian first, the cyclist second, the bus traveller third, the motorist fourth
- ▶ *Pedestrian Zone in front of the college:* straighten the bricks—serious trip hazards
- ▶ Calm Monks Road to give it its frontage back
- ▶ Traffic calming in front of Arboretum and school: block-pave the road with yellow bricks so drivers understand their route passes through a child-busy area
- ▶ South side of Monks Road: Railing replacement will help
- ▶ More control on landlord and multiple occupancy houses AS IN SCOTLAND
- ▶ Plastic guttering would be better black
- ▶ Re-site modern street furniture
- ▶ Reinstate the bricked area in front of the college as the Pedestrian Zone it claims to be—dotted white lines imply that vehicles have priority



## The Arboretum

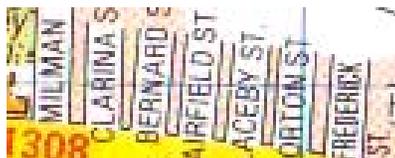
- ▶ Repair the damaged bit of the maze
- ▶ Do something about drainage on the path
- ▶ Fine those who drop litter and let their dogs foul the grass
- ▶ Increase number of bins at busy times
- ▶ Impose a 20mph limit alongside park
- ▶ Use Fosters Field as a play area for older kids
- ▶ Improve the path across the field

## College to the Arboretum



- ▶ Improve handrails on Vine and Cheviot Street
- ▶ Revert to road sweeper with broom to clear rubbish trapped beneath parked cars
- ▶ Promote STOP THE DROP, the 2008 anti-litter campaign
- ▶ Encourage the use of *Free Cycle* to dispose of unwanted furniture
- ▶ Promote the Council's free collection service
- ▶ Arboretum Avenue: create a side entrance worthy of the Arboretum
- ▶ Find out who owns, and who's responsible for the run-down paths next to the Arboretum

## Milman Road to Frederick Street



- ▶ Old hospital—living accommodation?
- ▶ Encourage the upkeep of front gardens
- ▶ Parking only on one side of Milman Road
- ▶ Wheelie-bins to suit differing situations
- ▶ More mixed-use—small shops, cafes etc
- ▶ Upgrade the Pelican crossing to a Toucan
- ▶ Cycle signs to the Arboretum Café
- ▶ Residents Parking

## The Cycleway (the Viking Way)

- ▶ The plot of ground next to the passageway is For Sale. Why not allotments?
- ▶ Better lighting and signage
- ▶ Litter bins along the path
- ▶ A salt/grit bin at the top of each road
- ▶ Also street signs at the top of streets

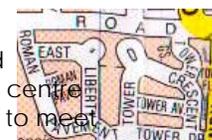
## Hillside to Ellesmere Avenue



- ▶ Council should adopt the private strip of road in front of Ellesmere Avenue
- ▶ Repair broken pavements—Sherwood Street and Jellicoe Avenue
- ▶ Replace bent sign
- ▶ Incentives for people to keep their front gardens reasonably tidy
- ▶ Paved footpaths on Hillside need re-laying
- ▶ More bins

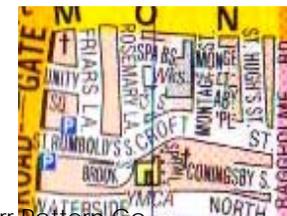
## Tower

- ▶ Close park at night
- ▶ Add some lights
- ▶ Replace signs
- ▶ Street cleaners needed
- ▶ Young person's drop-in centre
- ▶ Somewhere for people to meet
- ▶ Flatten the grass heap
- ▶ More Urban Rangers needed
- ▶ The council should take responsibility for improving the Tower estate
- ▶ Neighbourhood Office/ youth facilities



## Waterside North & Friars Lane to Baggeholme Rd

- ▶ Bins on every street
- ▶ Do something with Kerr Pattern Co
- ▶ NCP on St Rumbold Street an eyesore
- ▶ Sort out NCP wall
- ▶ Wheelie-bin shelter for elderly council tenants
- ▶ Make better recreational use of the riverside
- ▶ Repair potholes
- ▶ Make a pleasant footpath next to the river
- ▶ Cycle route to town

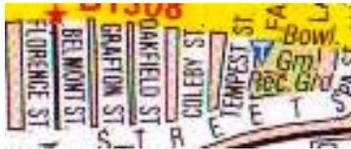


## John Street to Cromwell Street



- ▶ More litterbins on all roads
- ▶ More green stuff
- ▶ Bins should be taken in, once emptied
- ▶ John Street Car park: Take some tips from Thomas Street Car Park
- ▶ When reopened, hope Steam Hammer retains its sign and uses car park area to enhance the attractive building
- ▶ Rates exemption for anyone using a disused corner shop as a SHOP
- ▶ Rename the street below Claremont Street, south of Winn Street, and give it its own identity tag
- ▶ More police patrols to catch culprits
- ▶ Eastbourne Street: change street lamp
- ▶ Re-site the green cable box ▶ Pitched roofs on flats

## Florence Street to the Abbey Ruins



- ▶ Improve pathways
- ▶ Patrolling of the area is good—but should be done on a push-bike
- ▶ Rangers shouldn't motorbike on grass
- ▶ Either put a permanent fence round the ruins, or not at all.
- ▶ Better toilets—one for ladies too.
- ▶ Tennis court
- ▶ Putting green

## Spa Street to Monks Way



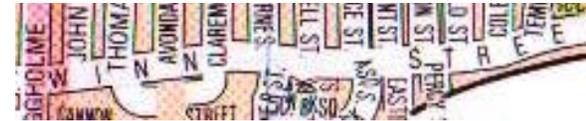
- ▶ Incentives for home owners and shopkeepers to make their fronts aesthetically pleasing
- ▶ More greenery to screen the pylons
- ▶ 20 mph limit on Monks Road
- ▶ Improve pathways
- ▶ Cheap and frequent bus services
- ▶ Double yellow line on Monks Road so that cyclists can use the road safely
- ▶ Upgrade Monks Way for shared cycle use

## Napier Street to Percy Street



- ▶ Enhance the embankment and railings
- ▶ Plant bulbs—even a small ornamental trees
- ▶ Remove redundant street lamps on house walls
- ▶ A green space?
- ▶ Pavement trees and some architectural feature would make Bentinck Square a real treat
- ▶ Some planting on the waste site—Boston ivy grown up the back wall to the garages
- ▶ Emphasise the gateway aspect of Napier Street—down to the river—with trees on the corner

## Winn Street



### Winn Street

- ▶ Intervals of widened pavement with trees planted to split Winn Street into neighbour hood sections
- ▶ Add pitched roofs to Cannon Street flats that are flat-roofed
- ▶ Replace front walls of eastern terrace to match original existing walls

### Winn Street south side

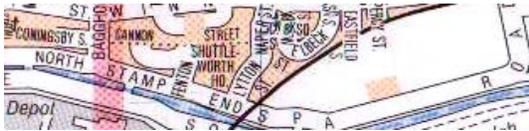
- ▶ Street trees with railings round them
- ▶ Take some tips from the Thomas Street car park; also the business car park south of river
- ▶ Purpose-built bin shelter



## Shuttleworth House

- ▶ Paint the same colour as Cannon Street flats—the limestone colour gives continuity within the city-scape.
- ▶ Build purpose-built shelter for bins
- ▶ Split block into public/private houses/businesses to provide funding for reception entrance, site concierge AND maintenance
- ▶ Café, business, leisure—find a use
- ▶ Green up—there are several grassed corners that would take trees
- ▶ Café in the building to connect up.
- ▶ Paint the outside walls—make it look cared for
- ▶ A railing replacement programme?
- ▶ Dustbin service area within flat complex
- ▶ Replace bins—and enclose them
- ▶ Bring terrace into use with riverside café.
- ▶ Sell some of the floors in building to businesses, giving a stronger voice to keep it in good nick

## Spa Road



Beyond Railway Bridge:

- ▶ Tarmac, with tree inside protective fence
- ▶ Claim as public land once again BUT allow garage to continue parking without looking a mess
- ▶ Approach rail authority to make aware and connect PLUS lighting—even in daylight could look attractive
- ▶ Tree preservation order on both species of poplar
- ▶ Plant trees as screens
- ▶ Help youngsters use the river to keep fit
- ▶ Leisure activities

### Power Station site

- ▶ Flooding: ground floor garage/ workshops as suggested by developer seems reasonable
- ▶ Save foundation stone
- ▶ Find alternative parking area without using river bank
- ▶ Planning gain for new development—cycle/foot bridge should be done in phase 1, so it's not forgotten

### Lytton Street

- ▶ Make use of waste ground for community
- ▶ Tidy up parking area and perhaps tarmac
- ▶ Wires should be covered up or attached to wall
- ▶ More bins—and more people using them
- ▶ Youth facilities (evidence of drinking on streets)
- ▶ Improve recycling signs—they're not clear and therefore not properly used ▶ Clear fly-tipping
- ▶ Re-tarmac pavement ▶ Sort drainage problems
- ▶ More dog bins ▶ Redesign area ▶ Play area?
- ▶ Green space? ▶ Parking bays with low hedges and trees? ▶ Fenced ball-game space?
- ▶ A formal garden in a walled space as informal gathering place—with fountain?

## Children's recommendations

Make people's gardens better  
 Put bins in back gardens or in bin areas  
 Mend broken signs  
 Sweep rubbish up  
 Put covers on water gullies on the paths  
 Improve look of factories behind houses

Improve paths  
 Pick up litter  
 Cut overgrown bushes  
 Clean gardens  
 Do something to the car park on Cannon Street  
 Tidy the gardens in Avondale Street

Different coloured lamp pots on different streets  
 Paint the benches  
 More rubbish bins  
 Don't litter  
 Fine people £200.000 for littering

### In the Arboretum

Graffiti off the bandstand  
 Paint the upper bandstand  
 More kids' stuff

Provide a drinking area  
 Toilets open  
 Ban drinking altogether  
 Ice cream van/shop open