

# INVERLEIGH STREETScape MASTERPLAN 2018 SURVEY RESULTS

## About the survey

This survey aimed to give the community an opportunity to provide feedback on what they liked about the Inverleigh Streetscape and to identify opportunities for its enhancement. The survey was available online and in hard copy at the Inverleigh Post Office and at Council's Customer Service Centre, from 23 May – 8 June 2018. A total of 81 surveys were received. The survey was one of a range of engagement opportunities offered in May – June 2018, for more information, please visit: [www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations/inverleigh-streetscape-masterplan](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations/inverleigh-streetscape-masterplan).

## Summary of survey results

Overall, the surveys demonstrate a strong interest in the Inverleigh Streetscape and a strong sense of community spirit. Most respondents chose to provide answers to the open-ended questions. The comments are wide ranging and reflect a diversity of community opinion on many issues. There were plenty of great ideas shared and areas suggested for further investigation.

### **How do Inverleigh residents typically get in to the town centre, and what do they like about High Street?**

Respondents typically travel to the Inverleigh town centre by car and walking, and particularly like the green and leafy landscape, the small country town feel and the wide roads (including the service roads).

### **What could be done to improve High Street?**

When asked about improvements in High Street, most residents would like to see more landscaping, improved drainage including Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD), and a unique town entrance sign. Additional suggestions for improving the Inverleigh Streetscape included improving the drainage and formalising car parking.

### **What are the main traffic and car parking issues in High Street?**

Most respondents considered that a pedestrian crossing would solve one of the main traffic issues, followed closely by the need to change ad hoc car parking under trees and in nature strips. Interestingly, the suggestions for overcoming traffic or parking issues indicated that the traffic and parking was okay, equally with the need for formalised parking bays.

### **What do you value most about the trees along High Street?**

When asked what they value most about the trees along High Street most respondents liked the greening of the streetscape, followed by the significant height and thirdly the shade and shelter that the trees provide.

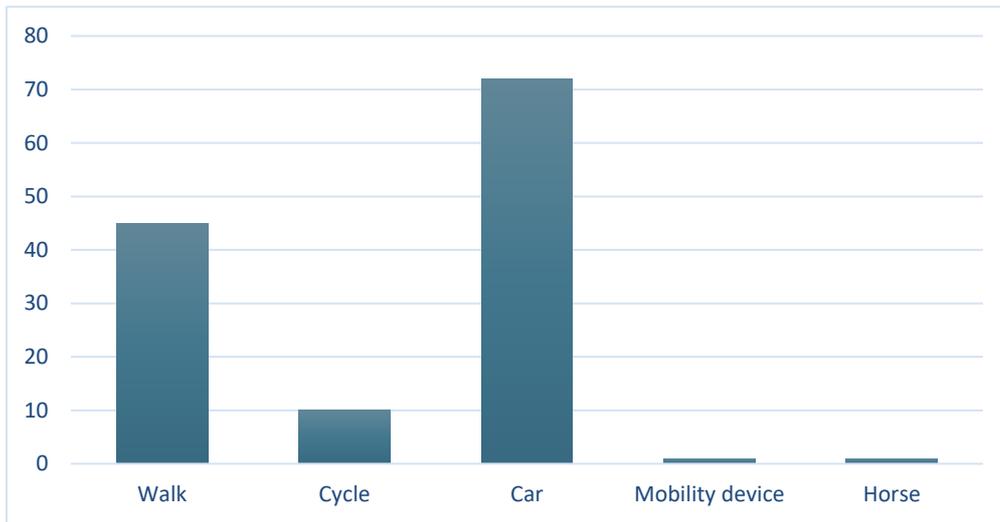
### **What is your primary role in the Inverleigh Community, and how old are you?**

The survey revealed that the primary role in the Inverleigh Community held by most respondents was a local resident/property owner and individuals were primarily between 35 and 54 years of age.

# Survey Responses

Each survey response has been recorded and collated into the following tables, a separate table has been created for each question. A summary of the themes and issues raised for each question is provided above each table, where applicable.

## QUESTION 1: How do you typically get to the Inverleigh town centre? Select up to two (2) modes of transport.



### Top 5 Responses to Question 1

- Car 72
- Walk 45
- Cycle 10
- Mobility device 1
- Horse 1

## QUESTION 2: What do you particularly like about High Street, Inverleigh?

### Top 5 Key Themes in Question 2

- Treed landscape 32%
- Small town country feel 16%
- Wide roads/service roads 12%
- Historic buildings 7%
- Tree-lined highway 6%

Note: Two (2) respondents did not answer Question 2.

**Table 1: All responses to Question 2**

It is wide and has great treed landscape.

Love the tree lined highway. The shady areas and the generally green look.

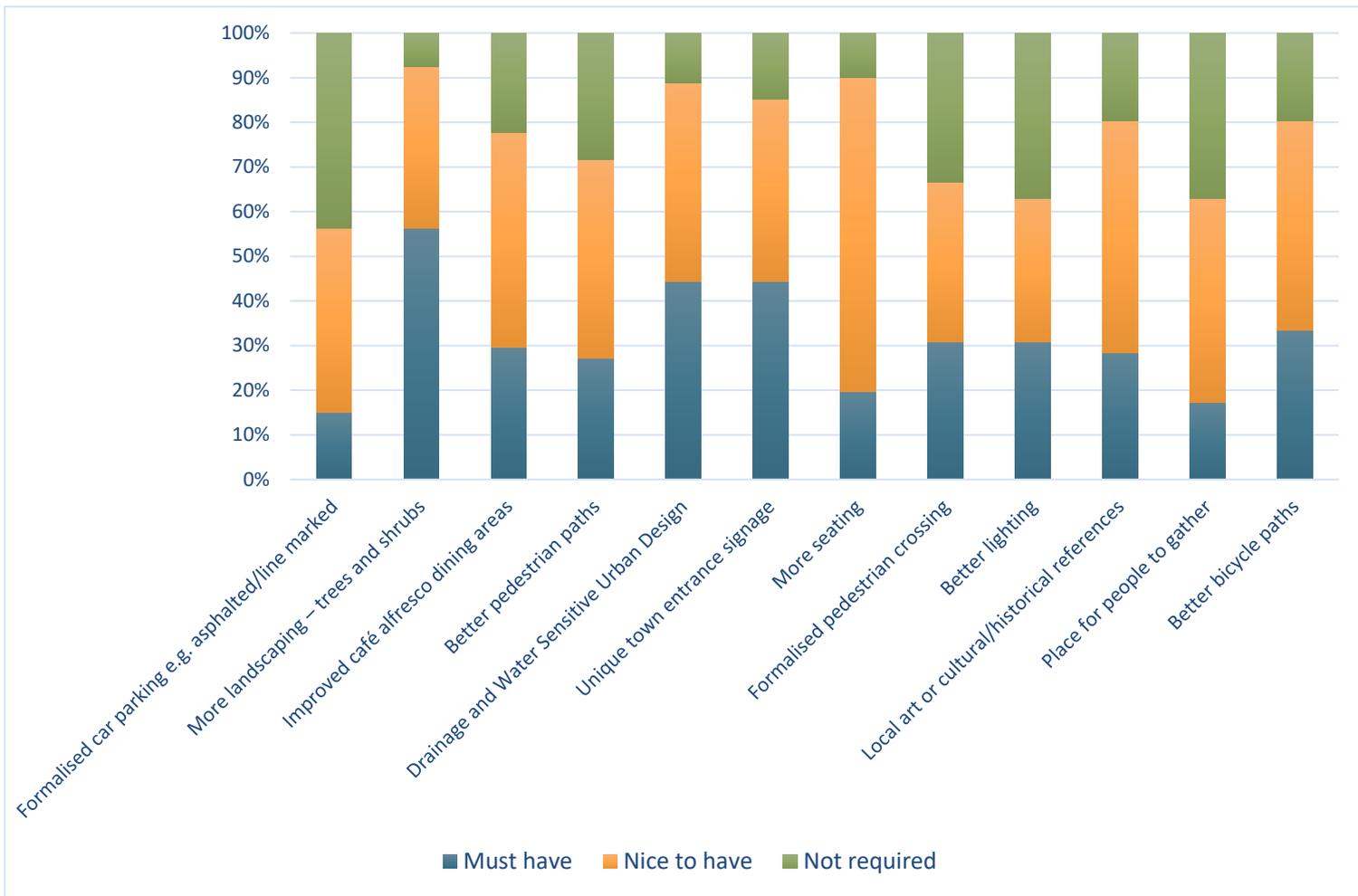
The trees

Historical Buildings

Wide Streets.
The large trees, the small town community feeling
Big, open, accessible area. The traffic layout is not prescriptive, and this results in a relaxed feeling for pedestrians in town. Understand the need to cover off pedestrian safety concerns but it is important for the traffic layout to not become too "urban". Love the existing established large trees. Understand that these need to be managed, but it is preferable for any replacement vegetation to be large and well developed. Town only ever feels busy due to trucks and through traffic, but we don't mind this as it is transient. The otherwise peaceful & boutique atmosphere is very attractive & important to us.
Country town feel.
The trees.
Country feel.
The trees, the service lanes,
Country town feel
The leafy outlook, and quiet nature of the town. Community feel.
The old charm beauty as you come down the hill and over the bridge
Trees, casual parking on the south side of High St, Alfresco dining
Beautiful main st... comes across as gorgeous small town.
Its very rural and traditional look and feel. It is a quiet town and its main street reflects its relaxed character.
I love all the different tree, except the cypress/pine trees they are ugly.
Service roads make shops very accessible, and there is generally a good amount of car parking. Established trees are a real highlight of the streetscape and provide fantastic amenity and sense of place.
The beautiful trees and parklands and the small boutique shops (and the lack of chain stores!!)
I love the tree lined entries to the township and the tree lined service roads either side of the highway
The trees.
Service roads to separate the hey from the shops. Trees that are established and provide character, heritage properties preserved with verandas etc.
Wide main street with service roads. The avenue of honour and large trees are very special.
The wonderful feel of the town as you drive through the massive trees, particularly near the school.
Loads of character, big trees, the old buildings.
Beautiful trees.
The quaintness, authentic country style.
I love the tree lined streets and all the local people got see.
Cafe, post office, beautiful big trees and an awesome little place to gather too. A lot better than Bannockburn.
Service roads, deciduous trees, shops, welcoming small town feel, the houses, old buildings.
The country feel.
It's country town feel. Plenty of parking. The trees are amazing and provide shade in summer and a colourful display in autumn.
Cafes trees park.
The trees.
Big trees Small town country feel Lots of greenery.
The mature trees
The trees, creates a lovely village feel. Offers shade in summer.
The quiet small community feel with good eating options.
Tree scape / Avenue.
It's quaint and is wide.

Convenience of the shops even though there are minimal - it definitely requires more development
Aspect.
The beautiful old gum tree.
Trees.
The Trees and feeling of spaciousness.
That the streetscape buildings have been kept and maintained in a heritage style.
Very picturesque when you drive in from Geelong over the bridge, the large trees that are in the township give it great character and aesthetics. Very "pretty" town.
Ambience. Inverleigh presents a beautiful face to inhabitants and visitors alike. The entrance from the east opens out to view heritage buildings and the treescape. The service roads provide safe travel for slower vehicles, bikes and pedestrians. The variety of trees, both native and ornamental stand out and frame our country town. Visitors frequently comment how they enjoy their visits.
The Trees lined main road. Also the fact we have service roads.
Wide streetscape, beautiful big trees, interesting buildings, not too much advertising signage,
The trees coming into Inverleigh have a great country feel.
The Avenue of tree down the highway that gives the town a village look, and the ability to park a car off the highway.
The tree line streetscape.
It is good to walk or drive down High St any day to see people having a coffee or meal cafes, shop & hotel enjoying our walk tracks & most of all our beautiful town Inverleigh.
Service roads to businesses.
The parking. The expansive width of the main street. The trees.
Country Town Feel.
Its old fashioned country feel
Streetscape of trees and walkability of side roads (service). The richness of bird life attracted by foliage.
Trees - Heritage maintained - not commercialised - small town feel don't over develop!
I like the large trees, Yellow Oak, Spotted gum. The informal 'country town' look. The space - wide road & side roads.
It's inviting rural feel, and being a small village gives one a homely feel. The old buildings and streetscape add to the attraction.
The shady trees lining the main st. Always green & welcoming – frames the township.
The green streetscape and historic buildings.
The mix of tall trees and the width of the main thoroughfares through town.
- Trees on either side gives a restful, green feel - Great little shops.
1. English Oak Trees. Do not touch. Plant some more 2. Excellent Truck Parking, enlarge it. 3. Prunis trees beside both footpaths.
The trees, the variety. The prunus trees when in blossom in the spring.
Park land, greenery, trees.
The country look & feel. The heritage of the ANZAC element and the community focus.
The 'old school' heritage style of the town.
It's a wide tree-lined street with service roads each side.
Heritage streetscape - Heritage overlay River.
It sets Inverleigh apart and the trees define its unique character. Chopping them down without a plan will make us like any other suburban strip shopping centre road in Melbourne or Geelong. And who will give us a 40kph speed limit on the Hamilton Highway? VicRoads view?

## QUESTION 3.a.: What do you think could be done to improve High Street, Inverleigh?



### Top 6 Key Themes in Question 3.a.

- More Landscaping 55%
- Drainage and WSUD 45%
- Unique town entrance sign 45%
- Better bicycle paths 33%
- Formalised pedestrian crossing 31%
- Better lighting 31%

## QUESTION 3.b.: Please provide more information, or any additional suggestions for improving the Inverleigh Streetscape.

### Top 5 Key Themes in Question 3.b.

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| • Improved drainage                                      | 5.98% |
| • Formalise car parking                                  | 5.12% |
| • Tree Management/Maintenance including plant more trees | 4.27% |
| • Leave the trees especially the natives                 | 4.27% |
| • Streetscape consistency in finishes                    | 4.27% |

Note: 27 respondents did not answer Q3.b.

**Table 2: All responses to question 3b**

Plan for replacement of Cypress trees that are aging.
I love how the street is now. It would be nice if arborists were brought in - not just to evaluate the trees but to give them some care to ensure longevity. I am aware Mortlake did this a few years ago.
Leave the trees - especially the natives alone.
Some sort of seating in the grass strip near the clock.
More seating and alfresco areas would be great.
pedestrian crossing from park to toilet a huge safety hazard.
Walking tracks are inadequate in town and all around Inverleigh and it's unacceptable.
Consistency. Would benefit from a considered effort to use similar materials, plants, lighting to create an effect that flows through the town. Look at what's already there and compliment this. Consider heritage towns that already do this well e.g. Camperdown, Terang, Beechworth, but with nuances of Inverleigh as a railway town e.g. railway sleepers used in a range of ways, recycled metal train tracks, railway type features, also large cobblestone gutters that have aesthetic appeal but acts as more efficient water drainage through town when flooded.
Also MUST consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- strong representation of vegetation types relevant to the ecological values of a riverine environment and sculptures of its native animals (Platypus/ Eels).</li> <li>- Clear narrative of the Wadda Wurrung peoples and their lifestyle prior to European occupation</li> <li>- The value of two rivers meeting at Inverleigh connecting two distinct catchment areas as a theme.</li> <li>- Inverleigh as a meeting place.</li> </ul>
Currently the biggest two issues for us are, firstly, the lack of school crossing that extends to the service roads (cars often get confused and its dangerous that children cross at the crossing but that security and clarity doesn't continue to the service roads on either side). The second issue is that the main children's playground has no toilets. Children must be taken either under the very busy bridge that runs beside the river (which also has a steep embankment), or over the busy main highway in order to get to a toilet from the playground. This makes things difficult for families with smaller children particularly if there are more than one in the family a parent must remove all their children to hike over to the toilet block before returning. It also prevents the lovely pergola area from being used for more children's parties. So either installing a second toilet block at the playground, or moving the playground near the existing skate park and toilet block would suffice. Although if this were to be moved it would also require some fencing to ensure safety of small children not hopping off the park and running onto the road near the pub where angle parking makes visibility an issue, and drivers may not realise small children are nearby.
We need drainage on the south side of High St and a more level area to park - doesn't have to be bitumen, more trees with Autumn colour and flowering trees
Improve with suggested additions above but KEEP CURRENT CHARACTER. DEFINITELY KEEP CURRENT TREES in place. They provide the habitat for birds and other fauna.
Lots of the foot paths need repair, remove all cypress/ pine trees or have them carved into art pieces

Gardens in front of car parks near the bakery etc. protrude too far toward the service road, and impact on parking. Also, these gardens don't have any significant plants - it would be great to see these redeveloped. School crossing could be improved by installing flashing lights to indicate school times etc. It would also be great to have a formal pedestrian crossing point from near the pub to the general store - this is a common spot to cross the road, and when the road is busy it can be hazardous to cross.

Please please please leave the trees alone and continually plant trees to ensure that when trees die there are mature trees to take their place! I only think I've seen about three trees planted along high street in three years - not good enough...

A tree maintenance / planting program be developed for ongoing care of existing trees and future planting.

Garden beds in-between tree planting where gaps are.

Regular cleaning of the kerb & channels & footpaths.

Formalise parking at businesses similar to the general store service road area.

Remove low vegetation garden beds at intersection of Dundas st and highway as it impedes vision of traffic entering onto highway from both sides Dundas st.

Improve the area without modernising too much. Quaintness is good. Make the area opposite the pub where skate park is a area like turtle bend in Teesdale. Suitable for markets, bike (bmx) track, shade, stage etc a great community space for use by the youth. Population indicated a third of residents are yth.

Inverleigh is a town with high percentage of travel and stop traffic. Coming from Geelong the parking is great now but from Hesse not so good. Take the big holiday weekends and some travellers park dangerously near the pub and bridge. Give travellers a chance to park near school or Farm supplies not right at shop.

The parking areas outside the pub and the bakery are quite often flooded and very muddy and sometimes you just can't park there at all due to these factors. There are also some odd garden bed type things there without any real use but they affect the way people can park. Parking outside Sonny is extremely limited and I often end up parking in the dirt across the road. The trees are all beautiful and really add to the lovely feel of the town. I remember passing through Inverleigh as a child and loving the greenery and the trees even then.

A bike path to allow residents who live out of the town centre to ride or walk into town.

Trees that have reached the end of their useful life should be removed, and their stumps should be turned into wood sculptures, the trees in the avenue of honour are too significant to be lost completely.

I would like a safe place for my children to cross the road on the weekend.

Council to mowe the lawns more often. Don't cut down trees as I have been hearing.

Leave the trees alone!! Plant more!!

Exercise equipment for locals like they have in other places. Landscape d more.

Ensure that there are large trees lining the Main Street at all times

Pedestrian crossing (no traffic lights) would improve safety. Alternatively make the crossing underneath the bridge a bit 'friendlier' and improve signage so visitors to the park etc know that it is there

More tables and chair at the park. There are a lot under the covered area but there could be more on the grassy areas.

Upgrade the Inverleigh playground. Include more shade over the play ground.

Some tables/chairs on the other side of the bridge/skate park side, down near the river for picnics etc

Tables and chairs in the camping area to the right hand side as you enter Inverleigh

Clear excess plants etc from the rivers edge to improve viewing.

Put more trees to grow big and proud.

Not much needs to be improved. We choose to live here BECAUSE of the village like feel. I find the existing streetscape charming. If it is modernised, Inverleigh's unique character could be destroyed.

Please keep its quaint aspect.

More shops and development.

Continuous footpath (wide) would be great.

Perhaps some planter boxes for flowers.

the puddles/poor drainage in front of pub/bakery is very poor, needs to be rectified and turned into formal car parking - same goes in front of Sonny/service station.

Need a crossing over the HWY in front of general store to bakery area, for customers - the under bridge path is too far away for people to viably use.

We have a problem with parking around the dining areas which are located together. The grass verges are being compacted by vehicles parking anywhere there is a space. Inverleigh provides an ideal venue for groups taking a break, with multiple options and clean toilet facilities. There is vital parking for trucking and vehicles towing caravans or trailers. Any solution should provide and enhance the character of the town. There have been requests for paved walking paths on one side of some streets by elderly residents. I think it is important to provide paved footpaths to encourage children to cycle to school from the various subdivisions.

The parking & drainage does need to be improved along the service road on the East end of High St. depending at what cost (I do not mean \$\$)

We need parking to work in conjunction with the feel of the town.

Provide rubbish bins in the free camping area.

The area around the shopping precinct needs landscaping to make it more people friendly. Shade trees, grassed area with watering system and manageable flower beds.

If any trees that needs to be removed would like to see some Australian Native Trees replacement.

Large Trees should be planted now for future generations to enjoy.

Removal of Pine tree near service station.

Sculptures from main street to Federation Bridge.

More parking Behind toilets Somewhere would be good to get Cars away from Pub & Bakery.

Stop eclectic housing approvals and concentrate on designs compatible with pre-existing town style.

Plant more trees, add heritage style street lights, build a stone town entrance sign.

A replanting program for any tree removal (cypress trees) that includes trees planted before removal. an ongoing tree maintenance program & upkeep of works done.

Definitely a formal entrance e.g. Lethbridge.

Pedestrian crossings for safety and some sort of recognition of Inverleigh History.

Better lighting for night. It's currently almost completely dark.

Better drainage including improving (or hiding) drains.

Protection of trees in median strips. Weight of cars causing damage to tree root structure.

Nature strips need to be kept and maintained and bollards of kerb & channel installed to keep cars off nature strips.

More landscaping - Flowering gum, Ficafolia and Claret Ash. Plant more deciduous specimen trees. Remove existing Cyprus and Pine Trees.

WSUD - Newman St - install pipe culvert to replace gutter between 2 churches.

Formalised pedestrian crossing - away from truck area

Place for people to gather - we already have a Town Hall.

Maintain what is already in Inverleigh, especially the garden beds.

Remove dip in road at Newman St north of Service Road.

Heritage style signage, street lights, seating etc to help retain old world charm

The changes need to have easy access to parking so visitors can see parking spaces & shops, activities so it is inviting them to stop & enjoy our town & facilities. There needs to be an activity each weekend - markets, events, shops all lit-up and inviting.

The lights need to be of a heritage style and a warm light (not just a white bright LED light).

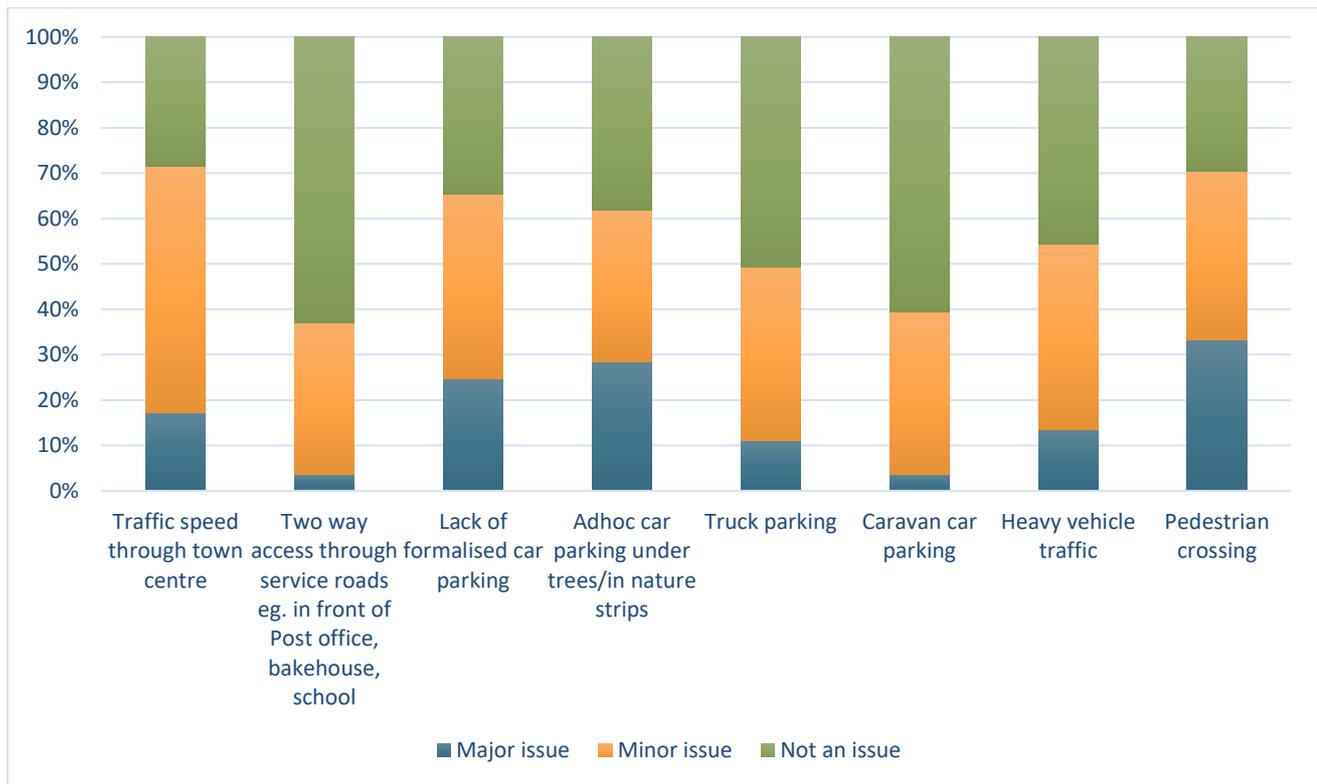
Need improved car parking so visitors see & can access easily

Remove the old trees & replace with mature trees that change with the seasons.

- More heritage bollards/replacement of old
- removal of old broken garden beds
- Tourism signage
- Replacement of suitable trees
- Artwork.

- There needs to be a lot more tree planting and sympathetic landscaping. The opportunity to link in Lawsons Park and the River should be taken up. Property owners should be encouraged to improve streetscape planting as happens in places like Daylesford or Yakandandah. Local residents need to be given access to all the arborists' reports and recommendations.

## QUESTION 4.a.: What do you think are the main traffic and car parking issues in High Street, Inverleigh?



### Top 5 Key Themes in Question 4.a.

1. Pedestrian Crossing 32%
2. Adhoc car parking under trees/in nature strips 28%
3. Lack of formalised car parking 25%
4. Traffic speed through town centre 18%
5. Heavy vehicle traffic 14%

## QUESTION 4.b.: Please provide any suggestions to overcome traffic or parking issues you have indicated above.

### Top 5 Key Themes in Question 4.b.

- Traffic/parking okay 14.08%
- Formalized parking bay 14.08%
- Change service roads to One way 5.63%
- Vehicles speeding 5.63%
- Addition of gravel to remove potholes 5.63%

Note: 18 respondents did not answer Q4.b.

**Table 3: All responses to Question 4b.**

Restrict cars and Trucks to centre potentially dual road with designated parking areas and remove service roads to make the overall area more pedestrian friendly.
Resident provided their home address.
Traffic is okay.
Trucks to slow to 40.
Policing for speeding; and resurfacing of the pot-holes around the service road outside the servo. Maybe keep this area as gravel - the small-town feeling this conveys is preferable to all asphalt everywhere.
Not a parking issue more an access issue but impacts on road crossing to amenities across from the hotel. Amenities in the reserve would be helpful and bins.
Greater police presence for speeding drivers
As the town expands in population and general public interest may need to consider increasing parking being placed between the public toilet and the skate park. Is truck parking necessary? This could be utilised much better for servicing the lack of car parking on that side of the High St and is relative due to the number of hospitality businesses. Car speed would need to be reduced after the bridge to allow for pedestrians to cross more easily from side to side if a crossing is formally introduced.
One way official access near the school service roads would help, currently the school recommends this for safety but when grandparents visit they often don't realise. Elsewhere it's not really an issue.
Just better levels in the service roads so water doesn't pool.
Please provide proper drainage so the existing car parking on the south side is useable all year round.
No issues.
Not sure.
More parking around school without removal of the attractive trees.
Asphalt this section of the road.
I don't really see any major traffic issues in Inverleigh... our local policeman regularly fines people speeding... probably only thing would be a decent bike track all the way along common rd to the school so kids don't have to go on the road.
Formalized parking bays to protect the tree root system as per suggestion above Broadened asphaltting on highway shoulders at intersections
more formal parking on south side of high st.
Stop them.
Resident provided their home address.
Perhaps formalising some parking near Sonny and definitely fixing the flooding issues and creating formalised parking outside the pub and bakery.
Clearly marked car spaces.
Traffic goes way too fast coming in to town from Geelong side, police sitting down bottom of hill helps enormously. Perhaps putting a speed reading sign up to show your speed might help for when the police aren't there, or even just

some rumble strips.
No parking on grassed areas.
Fresh gravel to build it up to stop the big puddles.
Ive haven't witnessed any issues. Trucks do provide business for locals so you can't deter them away but I do know the roads require to be maintained or else people go elsewhere.
Formal angle parking to maximise space. More parking near the school at the tennis court side, in winter water sits under the cyprus trees.
Leave it as it is.
Fill in the pot holes!
Stop sign. Change to One way only.
Turn service roads into one way streets.
Signage for truck/caravan parking areas on high st. Often tourists park here which limits truck parking/forces trucks to park in unsafe ways. Clear signs may assist with this.
Install a pedestrian crossing between the pub/bakery and high eight. Improve footpaths etc to allow safe access to the crossing. No traffic lights needed, just a zebra crossing with flashing lights. Lack of formalised car parking - is generally not an issue except for in busier periods. At present there is just dirt for cars to park on, drivers do not know which way to orient their cars etc (parallel, diagonal etc) Either fill with more gravel and place signage stating diagonal parking OR lay bitumen and clearly mark car parks.
Dangerous crossing the main road as cars speed.
Change give way sign to a stop sign at intersection of Hamilton Hwy and Winchelsea Rd. Maybe consider a Pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Lawsons Park, across to Public facilities.
A couple of pedestrian crossings are needed. This would also naturally slow the traffic too.
Permanent live speed sign at each end of town.
Not sure where trucks can go if not through Inverleigh.
Put proper roads and footpaths in.
None
Cutting down a beautiful extremely old and perfectly healthy Gum tree, for people that drive out to a country cafe is absolutely ridiculous! It won't look very country like.
Fix pot holes outside bakery.
Don't believe there are any major traffic or parking issues.
Better, off street truck parking.
Turn the "ad hoc" under tree parking on the nature strips into formalised parking, fixing the drainage issues at the same time.
Service Roads near the eastern end of town could be made one way. I do not think it would impact businesses. During school drop off and pick up I think they have a policy of one way traffic. Some vehicles feel they can park anywhere they like in Lawson's Park. People unfortunately do not like to walk!!
Bollards or similar to stop 4x4s entering highway over median strips.
Provide a marked / preferred route for walkers who want to cross between the general store and the bakery
Better allocated parking would ease congestion and condition of the high st road would stop water build up.
Designated angle parking with painted lines. possible not all day parking,
Designate parking areas on south service rd from service station to Hotel. Remove bus stop (not used). Rubbish Bins adjacent to food outlets.
I don't believe we have a traffic issue.
Reduce speed to 50k thro' township.
50 kph speed limit from police residence to past camping ground. Formal parking for pub and cafes.
Use 'No Parking' signs under trees & grassed areas.

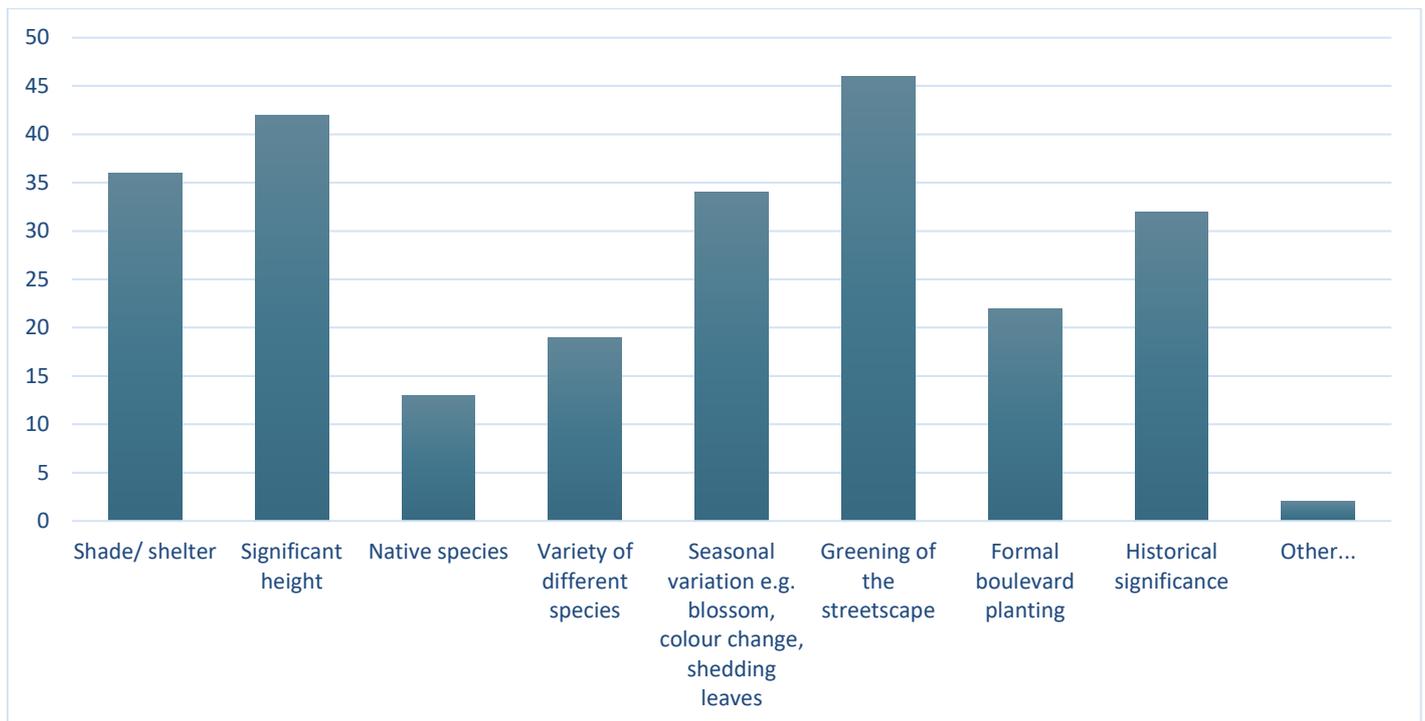
Manchurian pear trees at Post Office, are blocking visibility of cars turning onto Highway, after you inspect the exit, removal of 3 or 4 trees could solve the problem.

Better visibility when turning right onto the highway in front of shop.

Parking for cars & trailers in service road near shop/post office.

Urgent dialogue with VicRoads about the heavy lorries and trucks being slowed to 40kph through the village needs to be encouraged. We need a formal pedestrian crossing on the HH. When was the last traffic count and what did it show? GPS did not respond to the Parliament's ongoing INQUIRY INTO VICROADS' MANAGEMENT OF COUNTRY ROADS where such issues were raised by most other local authorities. Also motorcycles are motor vehicles who pay registration. Please do not exclude them as you have done.

## QUESTION 5: What do you value most about the trees along High Street? Please select up to three (3) options:



### Top 5 Key Themes in Question 5

- Greening of the streetscape 19%
- Significant height 17%
- Shade/shelter 15%
- Seasonal variation e.g. Blossom, colour change shedding leaves 14%
- Historical significance 13%

## QUESTION 6: What is your primary role in the Inverleigh Community?

- Local Resident/property owner 76
- Local trader/business 5
- Visitor/tourist 2
- Other 1

## QUESTION 7: How old are you?

- 25-34 years 11
- 35-44 years 23
- 45-54 years 22
- 55-64 years 16
- 65-74 years 7
- 75-84 years 2