

## **Contribution from Friends of Lewes Civic Society to the Informal Consultation by ESCC on pavement parking in Lewes.**

Friends of Lewes, the Civic Society for the town, is pleased to see that concerns about the interwoven issues of pavement parking by vans and lorries, congestion and pavement damage, which they have raised several times with ESCC Highways over the past two or three years, are being taken seriously and constructively.

Although the Society's starting point was the visual impact of damaged pavement slabs in the upper High Street, it has always recognised that repair has to be undertaken together with other measures. The proposed parking/loading ban on the north side, including a substantial restricted period on deliveries, taken together with the planned additional loading bays on the southern side, is a good start. It would be interesting to learn how many regular vehicle parking bays will be lost as a result.

The Society hopes that these arrangements could be made without excessive pavement markings or signs in such a much-visited and historically important area and that the paler yellow paint will be employed, as is appropriate in a Conservation Area.

As with any traffic or parking regulation, enforcement is crucial. Without it, and the threat of penalty, the impact would be limited. Will Civil Enforcement Officers be empowered to issue enforcement notices?

In those parts of the zone identified where historically the issue of pavement parking has been most acute (the area around the White Hart and Law Courts) might the additional measure of a few strategically-placed metal bollards – to Heritage/CA standards – be considered, to ensure that any pavement repairs endure?

The Society requests that in the analysis of responses to this initial consultation, the views of the businesses and premises directly affected will not be given greater weight than the benefits to all road users and pedestrians, residents and visitors alike, which will accrue from this long-standing problem on our High Street being addressed and, hopefully, solved.

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017