

## 9. Listed and locally significant buildings

In addition to their contribution to townscape character, many of the town's buildings are, in their own right, on the national list of buildings of historic or architectural interest. National policies give them protection and encourage their good maintenance as well as suitable settings in the local historic context. The location of statutory listed buildings is shown on page 23. Some important listed buildings include:

### Melksham Town Hall

The Town Hall was built in 1847, with five distinctive arches. The arch on the left housed a butchers, while the arch on the right housed the town stocks. The stocks can now be seen at the Local History Museum, in the Rachel Fowler Centre. Refurbishment plans would no doubt consider the replacement of the missing arch. Project 6.



Melksham Town Hall

By its design, size and location, the Town Hall dominates the group of buildings in the Market Place. Thus its architectural prominence reinforces its social importance to the town. Designs for the improvement of the Market Place should reinforce that importance. Project 6a, 6b. & 8.

### 20 Market Place. Kings Arms public house

The Kings Arms, east of the Market Place, was a coaching inn and rendezvous for hunting. Royal Mail coaches left from here daily on their way to Exeter and London.

### Rachel Fowler Centre

The building was formerly the Congregational Church, built in 1788. The lobby was enlarged in the 1920's. The original architect, Sir George Oatley, a Melksham man, also designed Bristol University. The building is now a thriving arts and social centre.

### 17 Bank Street. The Conservative Club

This building has been very well renovated and is an example of how other historic, though not necessarily listed, buildings in the town centre could be upgraded.



Conservative Club benefiting from recent renovation work



Kings Arms public house in the Market Place



## Listed & noteworthy buildings

Melksham's listed buildings, shown in red, are complemented by many other non-listed buildings which make an important contribution to the townscape quality. Examples of such noteworthy buildings are shown in orange.