

Landscape Design Proposals

Consultation session with Canterbury BID and HTA on 25 January 2024

Overall

- Access to power and lighting is a top priority from a safety perspective and also to provide a good welcome and to promote movement around the city.
- Sustainability of landscape interventions, ie who / how will they be maintained?
- Trees – needed and welcome in some areas, especially with warmer summers, but locations need to be carefully considered with respect to retail frontages and ASB. We request that all relevant parties are proactively consulted about the location of any trees.
- Westgate Square was covered under the LUF Highways Consultation, but we are concerned about the proposals for trees outside Okabasi at the entrance to St Peter's Street. The space is much-used parade route.
- Interpretation panels are very welcome and we would suggest QR codes with links to Visit Canterbury, Beaney, etc. In due course, when the city's digital infrastructure is improved, new apps and augmented reality would be welcome.
- Street furniture – ideally needs to be removable, for example by a pump truck so too heavy for person or group of people to move. This enables flexible space for events for residents and tourists to enjoy.
- Brilliant to see rainwater harvesting incorporated in the plans.

1. Dane John and the City Wall

- Power is very welcome. We understand from the consultation session with HTA that event organisers have been specifically consulted.
- Lighting is crucial from a safety perspective and also to enable people to use the routes that Levelling Up is funding.
- Suggest feature / functional uplighting along the city wall
- Terraced seating – suggest specific input from event organisers.

2. Castle Row Green Link

- Supportive of continuous route from Dane John to St Mildred's and removing the double wall along Castle Row Car Park
- Suggest uplighting of trees for safety

3. Castle Keep

- Keen to see more CCVT along this route and lighting along path by St Mildred's to Stour Street

4. Bus Station

- ASB needs to be a strong consideration so that people feel safe and welcome.
- We note that a specific bus shelter consultation will follow. More space and separate bus shelters to allow for easier movement would be welcome.
- In the future, and subject to alternative arrangements for the taxi rank and coach drop off, we would like to see the area between the bus shelters and Whitefriars pedestrianised.

5. St George's Square – Clocktower area

- Street furniture – if there is any street furniture between the Clocktower and Cowling and Wilcox, we highly recommend it isn't permanently fixed. It could become a magnet for ASB.
- Suggest consulting with Mark Stuart / Whitefriars specifically
- Not keen on the kiosk in the clocktower especially given the number of cafes in the area, and the desire for flexibility in the space. The clocktower could tell multiple stories – Christopher Marlowe's baptism, Baedeker Blitz
- Caution on specific placement of trees (as above).

6. St Mary Magdalene Tower / Garden

- Is there adequate spill out space, eg for people to congregate after weddings, funerals, etc? The space is also used by the Medieval Pageant as a really useful stopping point along Burgate, which is useful for anyone who needs a place to sit and rest, but also to encourage dwell time along Burgate.
- Please also include illumination of the tower from Burgate

7. Three Cities Garden

- Suggest the illumination of trees and Chaucer statue

8. St Radigund's Park and St Radigund's River Walk

- This would help to create a much-needed connection from Northgate through to the High Street via Pound Lane – for residents and tourists.
- Lighting / electricity would be very welcome and would enable Christmas lights and perhaps year-round catenary lighting
- The current proposals stop at the school / end of St Radigund's Car Park. Funding won't allow at this stage, but there is a need to extend all the way to the Coach Park and the Riverside. What are the options for funding this?