

Introduction

In June 2019, Bath & North East Somerset Council successfully secured £1.5 million towards the cost of implementing the first phase of public realm improvements which seek to enhance the High Street between Charlton Road and Bath Hill. The funding was secured from the Local Growth Fund, administered by the West of England Combined Authority. Additional funding has also been secured through Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions.

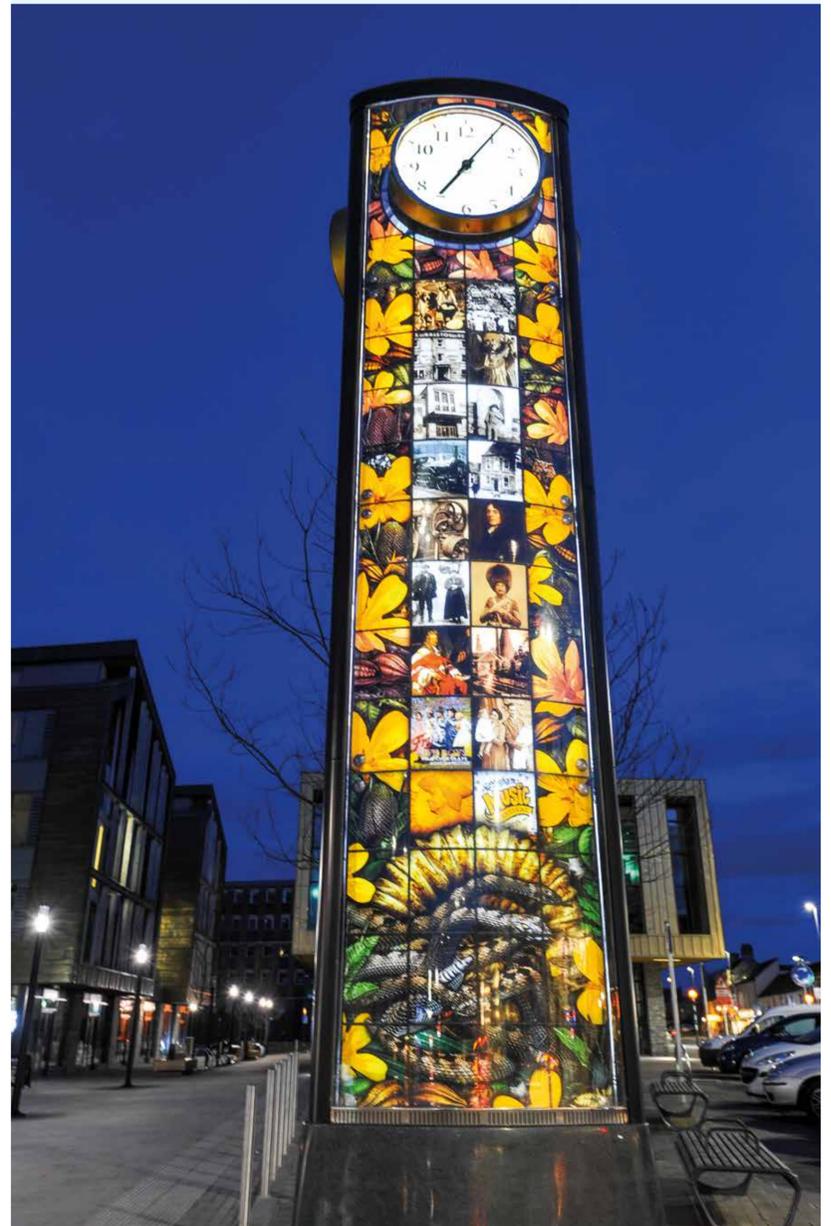
Have your say

This exhibition gives local stakeholders and the community the opportunity to view and comment on the detailed design.

The exhibition can be viewed at Keynsham Library or online at www.bathnes.gov.uk/keynsham between 24th January and 8th February 2020.

All feedback on the design proposals is warmly received. If you wish to provide us with your comments, forms are available to fill out at Keynsham Library or online. Forms filled out in Keynsham Library should be posted in the response box located next to the exhibition boards.

Following the exhibition, all comments will be reviewed to help inform the final design.



Clocktower (Image courtesy of Julian Foxon)

Investing in Keynsham's Town Centre

Keynsham's historic town centre continues to be the focus of local shopping, services and celebrations. The vitality of the high street however, like many in the UK, has declined due to competition from online shopping and out of town retail parks. Unsympathetic development and congestion have further exacerbated the problems facing Keynsham High Street. The enhancement of the public realm seeks to rejuvenate the town centre and attract locals and visitors back to the High Street.

What will investment in the public realm deliver?

- Widening of and improvements to pavements
- New and improved pedestrian crossings
- An improved bus stop
- Enhanced two way cycling facilities and cycle parking
- Enhanced High Street blue badge parking
- Refinements to existing short stay parking
- New tree planting and greenery
- New street furniture and street lighting
- Town Centre de-cluttering and improved signage and wayfinding

Steps already taken towards creating a better quality high street

Important steps have already been achieved in improving the quality of the High Street:

Spring 2019

- One way system implemented
- Public realm concept agreed
- Local Growth Fund investment secured

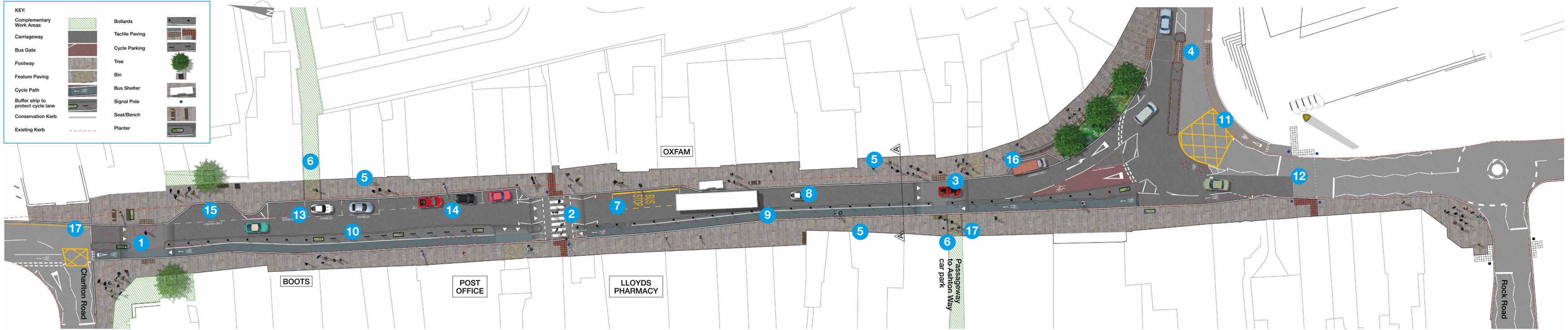
September 2019

- High Street awarded Historic England's Heritage Action Zone status, enabling further investment. Details expected in Spring 2020

December 2019

- Continued improvement to air quality

High Street proposals



High quality materials, attractive landscape and distinct street furniture throughout

- Conservation grade paving and kerbs throughout High Street enhancing the Conservation Area
- New comfortable seating choices with views on both sides of the High Street
- New street lights that can support decorations and banners throughout
- New street planters and landscape to bring seasonal colour along the High Street
- Tree planting and landscape at Bath Hill gateway
- Potential for a tree and seating within Methodist Church frontage space

Improvements to High Street accessibility

- 1 Charlton Road gateway with narrowed carriageway, widened pavements and improved pedestrian crossing with flush surface on raised table
- 2 Improved zebra crossing with better visibility, flush surface raised table with tactile paving
- 3 Improved southern pedestrian crossing with flush surface on raised table
- 4 Enhanced Bath Hill pedestrian crossing with wider central island space to accommodate push chairs, wheelchairs and cycles

- 5 Widening of narrow pavements throughout
- 6 Improvements to Memorial Park and Ashton Way link passageways
- 7 Position of bus stop allows cars to pass a stopped bus

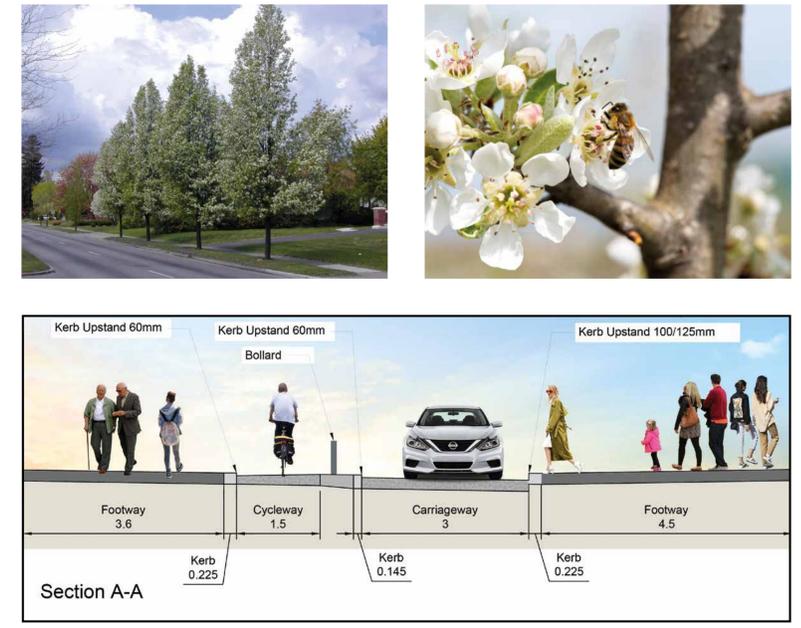
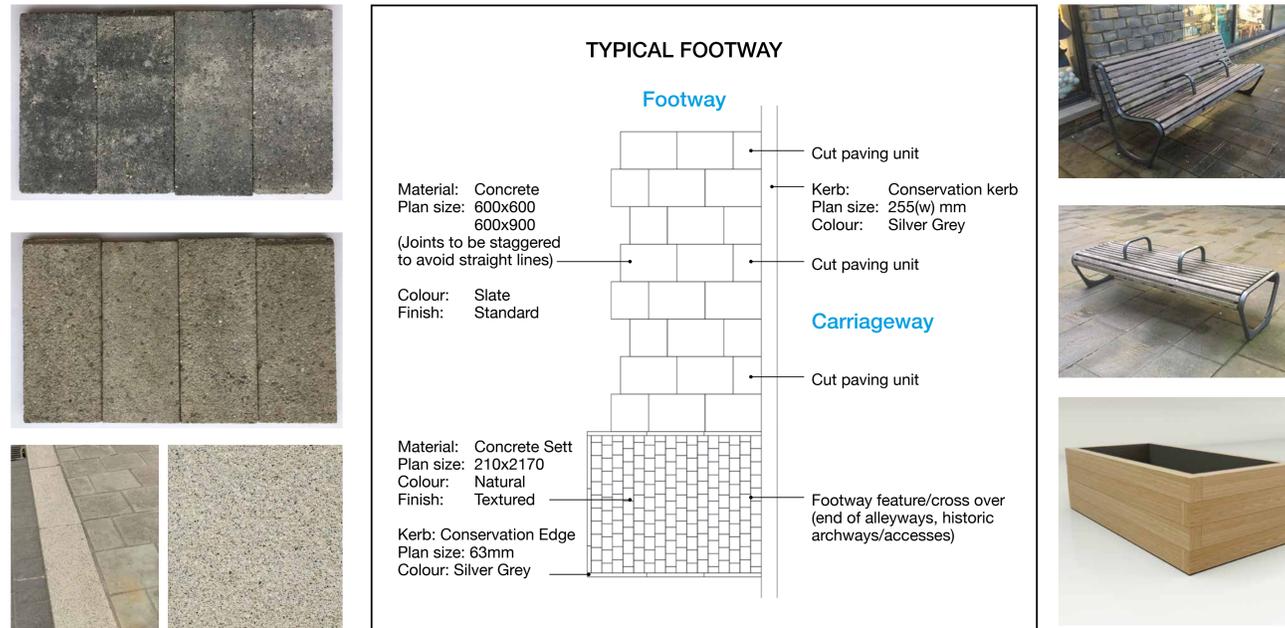
Improved facilities for cyclists

- 8 South-bound cycling in 20mph narrowed carriageway
- 9 North-bound cycling in dedicated lane, separated with bollards and kerb edges
- 10 New central cycle parking
- 11 Extension of Bath Hill cycle lane to improved Temple Street signal crossing
- 12 Temple Street signal crossing upgraded to Toucan for pedestrian and cyclist use with improved cycle lane link to High Street cycle lane

Improved signage, parking and delivery space

- 13 Increased number and improved parking spaces for disabled people
- 14 Four short stay parking spaces retained. Motorcycle parking provided in Ashton Way car park
- 15 Improved space for deliveries and church vehicle access at Charlton Road Gateway
- 16 High Street southern loading bay retained
- 17 Rationalised highways signage and new pedestrian wayfinding information

Materials and detailing



Paving materials

- All pavements resurfaced with high quality, smooth conservation paving slabs laid in “heritage pattern” to compliment Conservation Area
- Conservation grade kerbs throughout
- Special feature “sett” paving at historic archways and passageway entrances
- Tactile paving at all pedestrian crossings
- New carriageway resurfacing

Street furniture

- Distinct, robust and coordinated suite of furniture including seating, cycle parking and bollards
- Contemporary design to compliment Conservation Area and Market Walk.
- Range of seating choices including seats and benches with arm rests with High Street views
- Seating locations focused in widened gateway areas to avoid obstruction
- Potential for a tree and seating within Methodist church frontage space

Street lighting

- Existing A Road style (tall) lamp posts to be replaced with discrete lower (8m) columns with simple lanterns to reduce impact on High Street views and Conservation Area.
- Column colours to complement the street furniture
- Columns will support Christmas Lights and festival banners

Landscape and tree planting

- Distinctive planters to be placed throughout the High Street to add greenery and seasonal colour
- Planting of trees to highlight and green the southern Bath Hill Gateway into the High Street set within landscape bed with wall seating
- Potential for landscape enhancements within church frontages

Signage and wayfinding

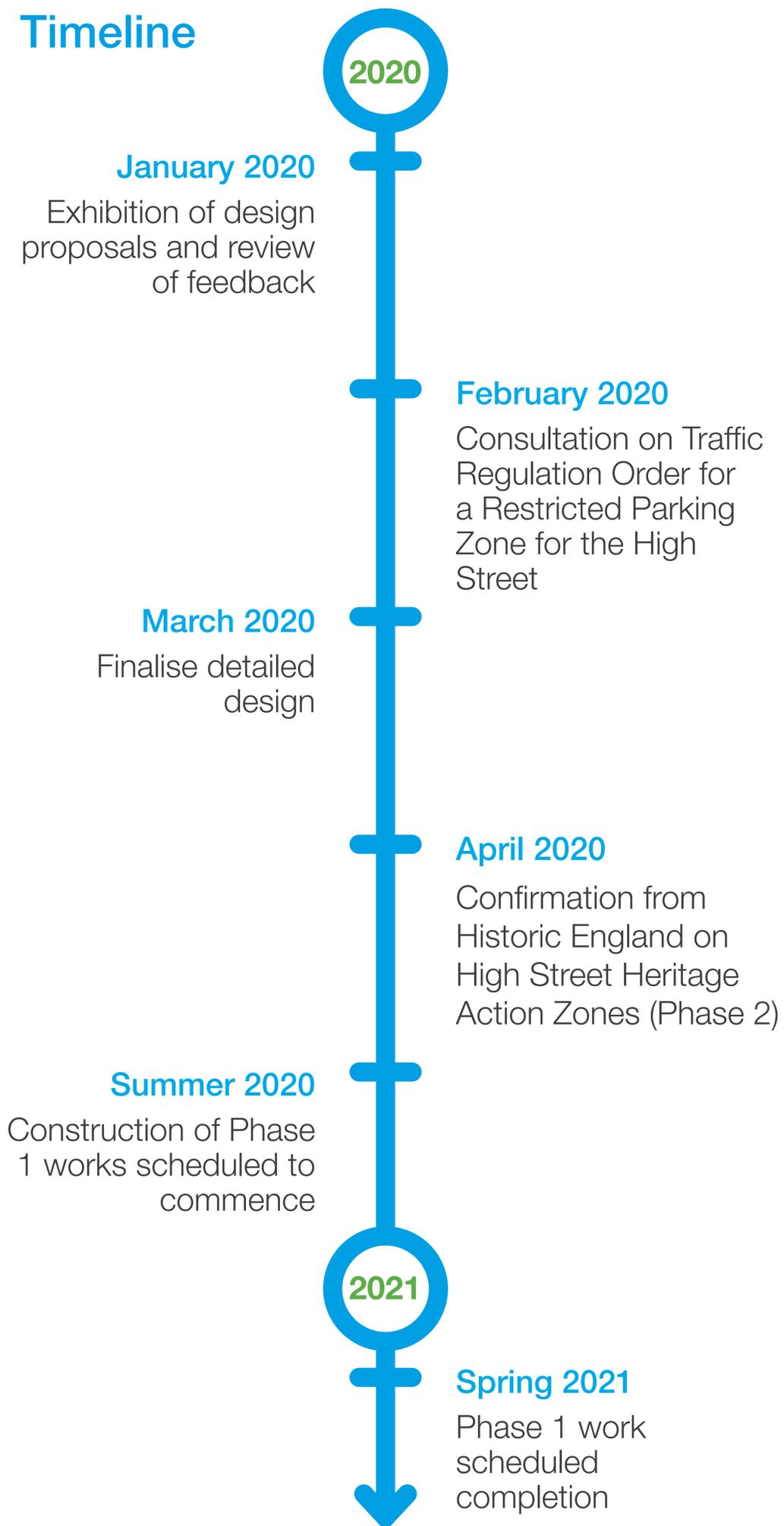
- New finger posts and wayfinding promoting and connecting the town centre
- Information and wayfinding system to integrate with Memorial Park and include mapping information and finger posts network across the town centre

Car parking and delivery management

- Increased parking spaces for blue badge holders with dropped kerb wheelchair access to the pavement
- Space for deliveries and church ceremonial vehicle access retained and improved
- Four short stay spaces retained in High Street
- Parking controlled through new Restricted Parking Zone providing clear parking information and minimising visual impact of yellow lines within Keynsham Conservation Area

Next steps

Timeline



How to comment

You can comment on the scheme by filling out a form at Keynsham Library or online at www.bathnes.gov.uk/keynsham. All forms filled out at Keynsham Library should be posted through the response box located next to the exhibition boards.

Please provide all comments and feedback by **Saturday 8th February 2020**.

Keeping you informed

Residents and businesses in the area will be contacted with further details of how the work will take place.

Find out more

To find more about the project please head to www.bathnes.gov.uk/keynsham