



Hi!

MIDSOMER NORTON

Public Consultation Summary
27 Nov 2020 - 29 Dec 2020

CONSULTATION ON NEW MARKET SQUARE AT THE ISLAND

As announced in August this year, £2m has been secured to deliver lasting improvements to Midsomer Norton's historic High Street and town centre, to celebrate its character, make it more attractive, encourage more people to visit and support local businesses.

The investment means that a number of exciting projects will come forward along the High Street over the coming years. The first project is the new public space and Market Square on The Island, reinstating a market space in the town like the one established by Royal Charter nearly 700 years ago. The emerging concept designs are detailed on the following pages and we want to hear what you think about them.

Your comments will be used to prepare the final design and full business case needed to sign off the funding. This funding has been generously provided by Historic England through their 'High Street Heritage Action Zone' programme and the West of England Combined Authority's 'Love Our High Streets' initiative. The Heritage Action Zone project was set up following successful grant funding bids supported by local stakeholders including the Town Council, civic and community groups, local businesses and landlords.

Other projects to follow as part of the Heritage Action Zone include restoration of the internal market hall at the Town Hall, the regeneration of the thoroughfare between the South Road Car Park and High Street, investment in historic shop fronts, signage and public spaces through the town centre and a programme of community events, amongst other improvements.'

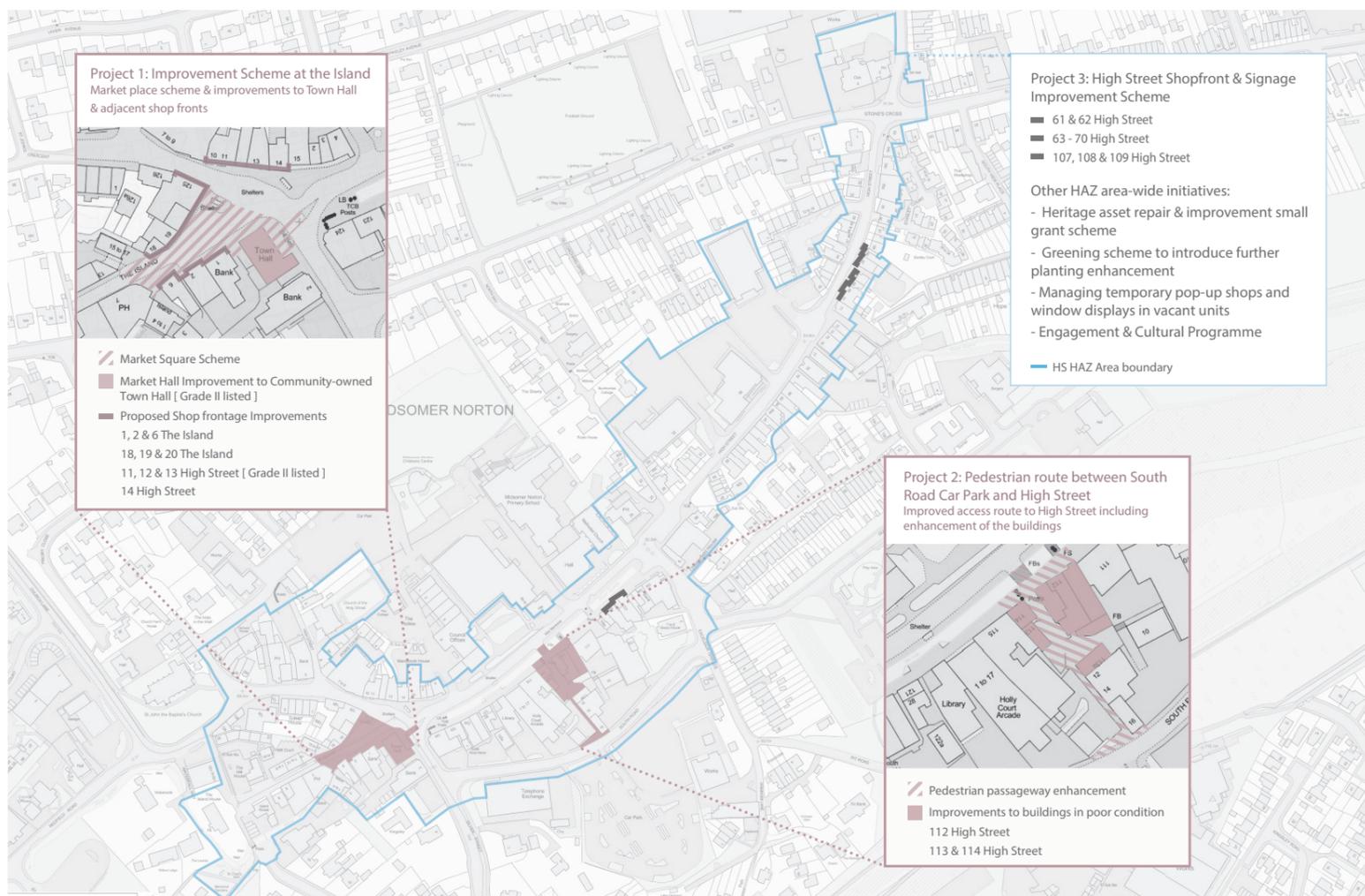


Historic view of The Island

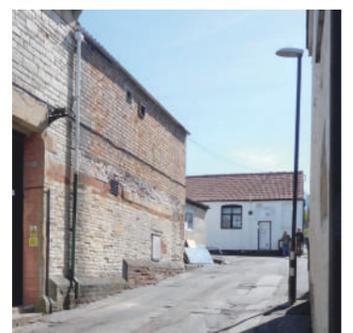


The Island now, with Italianate Town Hall

The concept design is presented here for comments from the public and stakeholders, and this consultation will inform the detailed design process.



Midsomer Norton High Street Renewal Programme Summary Diagram



A NEW MARKET SQUARE AT THE ISLAND

The aim of the project is to create a flexible public space for events and activities that will support the vitality of the High Street whilst improving the setting of the historic Town Hall, including;

- Welcoming, safe and attractive place that local people can enjoy
- Events space with the right infrastructure to support markets, community activities and civic occasions
- Enhance the western end of the High Street and complement the historic Town Hall and nearby shops
- Support the function of the surrounding businesses and Town Hall, creating connected indoor and outdoor spaces at the Town Hall
- Flexible parking capacity to support local businesses and events, including 2 blue badge spaces and loading. This is achieved by replacing the existing 14 spaces on The Island with 10 flexible spaces, in addition to 5 new car parking spaces being created on the High Street and Excelsior Terrace.

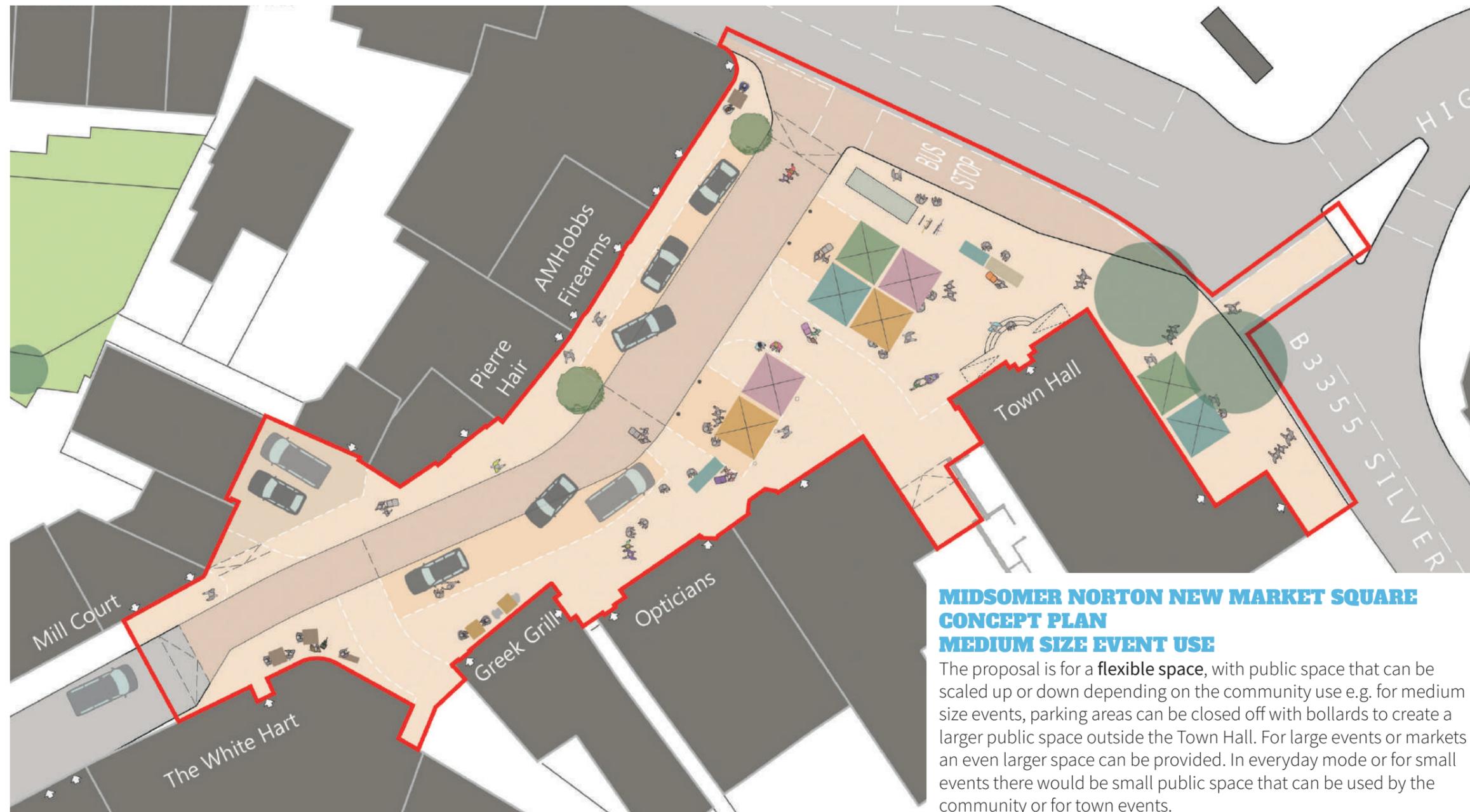
SIMILAR PROJECTS



Woodstock, Oxfordshire



Salisbury, Wiltshire



MIDSOMER NORTON NEW MARKET SQUARE CONCEPT PLAN MEDIUM SIZE EVENT USE

The proposal is for a **flexible space**, with public space that can be scaled up or down depending on the community use e.g. for medium size events, parking areas can be closed off with bollards to create a larger public space outside the Town Hall. For large events or markets an even larger space can be provided. In everyday mode or for small events there would be small public space that can be used by the community or for town events.



CONCEPT PLANS FOR THE NEW MARKET SQUARE TO SHOW ITS FLEXIBLE USE

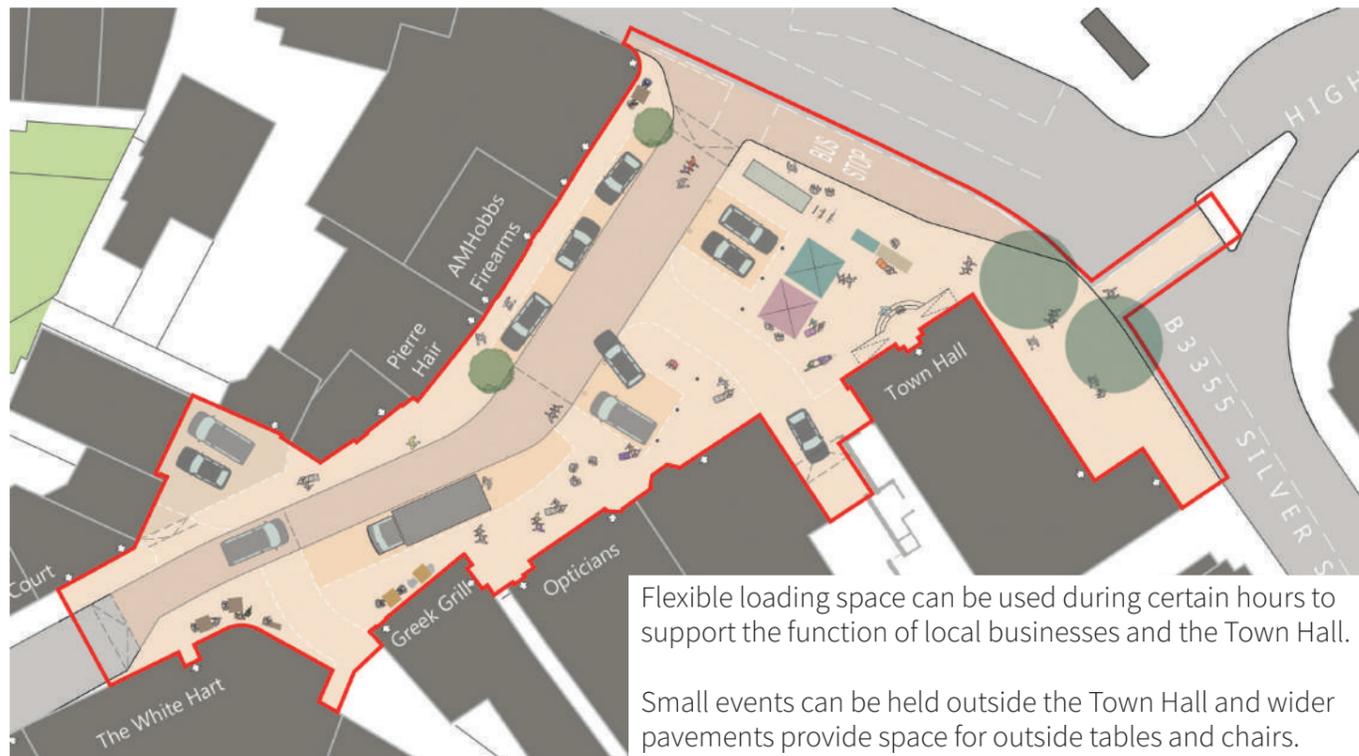
'EVERYDAY' USE WITH PARKING



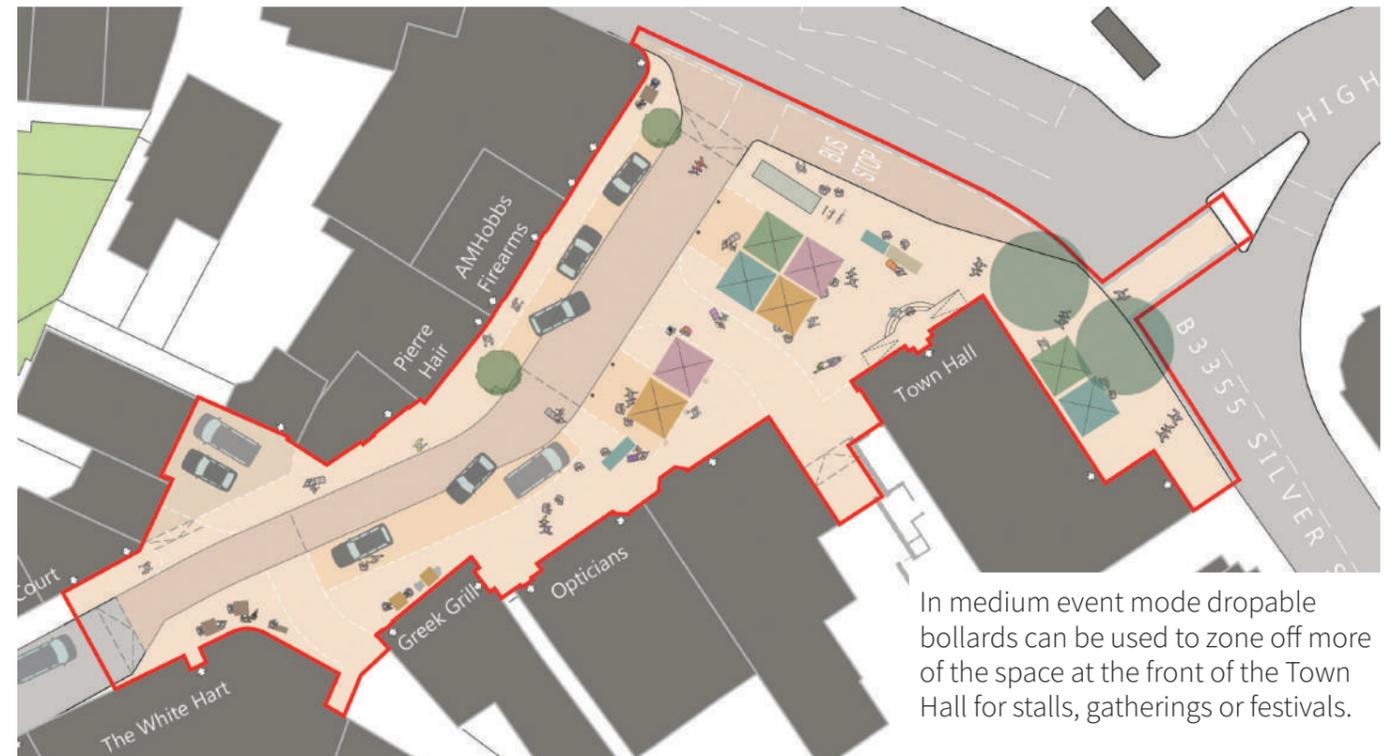
FULL MARKET USE



'EVERYDAY' USE WITH PARKING & LOADING



MEDIUM EVENT USE





HM Government



MIDSOMER NORTON



Historic England

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives



MIDSOMER NORTON
TOWN TRUST



Input and feedback from local people and businesses will be crucial to the ongoing design process and the overall success of the new public open space and Market Square at The Island.

This public consultation runs between 27 November 2020 - 5pm on 29 December 2020.

This material can be found online at both the Bath & North East Somerset Council website and via Midsomer Norton Town Council's website.

What would you like to see The Island used for?

Which parts of the concept designs do you like?

Which aspects of the concept design do you think could be improved?

Do you have any other ideas to share with us about The Island or the broader Midsomer Norton High Street Heritage Action Zone project?

Please contact Edward Heritage, Midsomer Norton High Street Heritage Action Zone Project Manager, by email (edward_heritage@bathnes.gov.uk) with your comments, or via post to: Edward Heritage, c/o Midsomer Norton Town Council, The Island, Midsomer Norton BA3 2HQ. Alternatively you can give feedback to Midsomer Norton Town Council on 01761 418701, Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

Next Steps

Comments from this public consultation will be used alongside detailed technical work (including below ground surveys, vehicle safety audits and vehicle tracking) to inform the detailed designs for the new town square. These will be used by the project Steering Group (made up of the partner organisations shown here) to put together a Full Business Case to secure the remaining funding needed to deliver the scheme.

This document about Midsomer Norton's new Market Square can be made available in a range of languages or other formats such as Braille or large print, from Edward Heritage email (Edward_Heritage@bathnes.gov.uk) or by contacting Midsomer Norton Town Council tel (01761 418701).