



Haverhill Area Working Party 24 March 2011

Environmental Enhancements: High Street, Haverhill

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is update the Working Party on the programme for delivery of the High Street Environmental Enhancement project and arrangements for initial consultation.

2. Background

- 2.1 There has been significant public realm investment in the centre of Haverhill in recent years, including the creation of the Town Hall Annexe car park, Jubilee Walk Enhancements, changes to the bus station and most recently the enhancement of Queen Street. The High Street last received public realm investment in the 1990s.
- 2.2 On 1 December 2010, the Cabinet approved a £750,000 allocation of Growth Area funding for implementation of an environmental enhancement scheme for the High Street following consideration of a recommendation from the St Edmundsbury Growth Area Partnership Board (Minute 90(f): Cabinet 1 December 2010 refers).
- 2.3 The main intention is to carry out works to an area between the Market Square and Quakers Lane. This was not included in the works carried out in the 1990s. However, there are a number of other issues relating to the current layout of the High Street and management of traffic in this area and a long held desire to introduce full pedestrianisation to the street during the main part of the day.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The overview of this project will be provided by this Working Party; however, as the works are on the highway, Suffolk County Council will need to be assured that the scheme meets their requirements. A copy of the terms of reference for the scheme is attached as Appendix A to the report.
- 3.2 In view of the widespread public concern about the way the High Street currently functions, it is considered appropriate to carry out a series of consultation meetings, with local stakeholders and the public, to establish their concerns before any detailed design work is undertaken. The current list of stakeholders include:-
- (a) Haverhill Town Council;
 - (b) the Chamber of Commerce;
 - (c) the Police and Fire Services;

- (d) Haverhill Town Centre Manager;
- (e) local businesses;
- (f) market traders;
- (g) disability groups identified through the locality group;
- (h) St Mary's Church; and
- (i) Gurteens former factory site.

3.3 It is suggested that the public engagement commences immediately after the Borough Council elections early May 2011. Dates for public consultation events and meetings with stakeholders will be arranged, where possible to coincide within existing meeting dates. The public consultations will consist of informal drop-in sessions where the public will be invited to highlight the particular issues of concern to them. The outcome of these consultations and initial thoughts on designs will be reported to the next suitable meeting of this Working Party.

3.4 Attached at Appendix A is a revised programme for this work.

3.5 The Order proposing the pedestrianisation of the High Street and moving the Friday provisions market to the High Street, was advertised in 2010 and received several objections. Due to the proposed restrictions to loading and unloading, these objections need to be considered and determined by a Public Inquiry. The proposed date of this Inquiry is September 2011, with an anticipated completion date in October 2011. The outcomes from this Inquiry will be incorporated within the scheme design.

4. Recommendation

4.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** that:-

- (1) the contents of this report be noted; and
- (2) the terms of reference for the Environmental Enhancement Scheme for High Street, Haverhill, as detailed in Appendix A to Report B528, be approved.

For further information, please contact:-

Ivan Sams Head of Property and Engineering Services

Telephone: (01284) 757304, or email: ivan.sams@stedsbc.gov.uk

W:\Democratic WP Services\Committee\Reports\Haverhill Area Working Party\2011\11.03.24\B528 Environmental Enhancements, High Street.doc

TERMS OF REFERENCE

SCHEME: HAVERHILL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HIGH ST

BUDGET: £750,000 from the Growth Area Capital Fund

1. The Project Board will comprise of the Haverhill Area Working Party, HAWP, and the Project Management Team
2. The Project Management Team, will report to the Haverhill Area Working Party at their scheduled meetings. The Project Management Team will meet according to the requirements of the programme.
3. The Project Management Team will carry out consultations with locally interested parties and groups.
4. The Project Management Team will prepare the works programme and acceptable design options; taking on board views gathered from the consultations. One or more design options will be presented to the Haverhill Area Working Party for consideration and selection.
5. The Haverhill Area Working Party is the budget holders for the scheme. They will give final scheme approval from the options presented by the Project Management Team.

Project Management Team

The Project Management Team will comprise:

Project Director: Ivan Sams
Project Manager: Suzanne Buck
Project Engineer: Sam Cliff

Design works to be carried out by Suffolk County Council.

HAVERHILL HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENTS - PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME																																																					
	March			April				May					June				July				August				September				October			November			December																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43										
HAWP																																																					
Radar Surveys, etc.																																																					
Review of Concept Designs																																																					
Public & Stakeholder Consultation																																																					
Preparation of Design Options																																																					
HAWP - Confirm final design																																																					
Final Consultation																																																					
Detailed Design																																																					
Pedestrianisation Public Enquiry																																																					
HAWP - Sign off																																																					
Site Works																																																					

	January			February				March					April				May				April				May				June			July			August																			
	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85												
HAWP																																																						
Radar Surveys, etc.																																																						
Review of Concept Designs																																																						
Public & Stakeholder Consultation																																																						
Preparation of Design Options																																																						
HAWP - Confirm final design																																																						
Final Consultation																																																						
Detailed Design																																																						
Pedestrianisation Public Enquiry																																																						
HAWP - Sign off																																																						
Site Works																																																						