

ShIPLEY Towns Fund Project B

SHIPLEY TOWN CENTRE AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Progress report July 2023

Market Square – Streets for People

Public realm project for the existing ShIPLEY Market Square that will improve air quality and safety, reduce speeds and improve public transport accessibility, support walking and cycling, provide greener streets and more pleasant places to stop, spend time and relax.

ShIPLEY Market Square public realm improvements proposals are progressing. The design so far has been reviewed and updated several times to take into consideration comments from all the earlier public consultations, new feedback from stakeholders and all other relevant interested parties within the Council.

Value engineering is an ongoing process to ensure that the vision and ambitions for this scheme are still met, despite an increase in the cost of building materials of over 30% since the Towns Fund budgets were set.

The proposals now include the outdoor market man area with a more compact tensile canopy than previously proposed. This meets the Markets Service core needs in a more cost efficient manner, whilst still offering the desired visual impact and amenity for a larger variety of public events in this space.

Tree surveys have informed which of the existing trees are healthy and have sufficient design life to merit their retention. This suggests an updated layout for the planting areas along Well Croft, where several trees are in poor condition and not thriving. Much of the paving in Well Croft does not merit replacement, but repairs and improvements are necessary.

The pavements across the roads from Market Square and Well Croft have also been added into the proposals to ensure that the whole of the area benefits from the uplift in quality and visual amenity. This also links into wider infrastructure and route improvements envisaged for delivery through Towns Fund. There will be different treatments for the different areas, according to the requirements, and work has been undertaken to engage with suppliers to secure a good balance of cost against quality.

The intention is to make a start on site during summer 2023 and carry out certain “enabling” works during late summer/autumn 2023, some examples being:

- Site Investigation works required for the public realm area and for canopy foundation design
- Possible installation of electric charge points in the car park
- Site clearance of trees to be removed in November
- Localised paving repairs to Well Croft area which can be done using the Bradford Council's term contract process. Perhaps also construction of the raised planters.
- Install real time travel information to the existing Metro totem (Market Square/Bank Street)
- Enabling works for the Market Service store extension.

Any works proposed for the end of 2023 will need to be agreed with retail traders around the Market Square, in consideration of their run-up to Christmas trading period.

Presently the Highway Engineers are preparing a 3d CAD model (Autodesk Civils) required for the building works and are assessing the proposals to ensure that the levels and all the statutory highway requirements are correct for the site. Following this all the construction details and tendering documents will be prepared for the market area, the shopping precinct and planting beds for Well Croft.

Projected programme:

By the end of August - development of detailed design for the Shipley Marketplace public realm scheme, which will include paving, landscape, drainage, etc.

September – preparation of contract documents to include drawings, bill of quantities, specifications, etc.

October – tender period

November – evaluation of bidders returns and Contract Award

Early 2024 – main contract works to start of paving for the front of the shops and on the market area. The duration of main contract works on site will be phased to minimise disruption for businesses. This needs further work to agree a detailed programme, including input from contractors.

The only item that requires planning consent will be the extension for the Market Service store. This needs some co-ordination with the Shipley Town Council public toilets project.

Current overall layout plans are appended to this report. This project has £1m of match funding from West Yorkshire Combined Authority – Streets for People programme.

Public Toilets

Provision of much needed town centre public toilets to be managed and maintained by Shipley Town Council.

Bradford Council have been continuing to advise Shipley Town Council on the delivery of the public toilets they will operate, making this element of Project B the only part that is not wholly project managed by Bradford Council.

Shipley Town Council are known to be making progress with securing some form tenure of the current Market Service store (former Gents public toilets).

The current public toilets design, by architectural consultant Alex Green, requires only half the existing building. However, the remaining space will not be sufficient for the Market Service needs moving forward, which will increase once they lose the current fixed market stalls and begin trading from demountable stalls, and hence an extension is needed.

Shipley Town Council have expressed a desire to take over the whole of the current Market Service store, utilising the half left after the public toilets are created for their own storage needs. This Shipley Town Council store is not part of the original Towns Fund Business Case, and accommodating this request would add to project costs by necessitating a far larger extension to be constructed, for which the current public realm designs do not have space.

To further assist Shipley Town Council, it is proposed that an additional project management resource from Bradford Council is made available.

Canal Road Corridor – Naturalising Bradford Beck

A redesign of Bradford Beck to reduce flooding on the key road corridor connecting Shipley to Bradford, whilst also creating a new park with enhanced amenity and wildlife value. The design will involve removing an 80m long concrete culvert, re-naturalizing the flow of Bradford Beck. Towns Fund resources will be used to reinforce the routes from the de-culverting site to Shipley town centre.

The project to de-culvert a section of Bradford Beck, which brought £3.4m of match funding to Shipley Towns Fund has lost its European Structural & Investment Funding. Bradford Council still has ambitions to complete Naturalising Bradford Beck, but no timescales for delivery have been agreed.

The proposed use of Towns Fund resources to reinforce the routes from the de-culverting site to Shipley town centre can continue, but will need some revised design development.

Active Travel to better connect Shipley to surrounding areas and Saltaire

Deliver improved active travel routes to link the Market Square project to the railway station, as well as Shipley town centre to Saltaire (along the towpath) and surrounding neighbourhoods.

The first group of the Infrastructure Improvements project are being procured and delivered by the Highways Maintenance (North) Team.

Victoria Park (footway improvements on a route to school) is complete. Cost - £39,312.05

West Lane, Baildon (footway improvements on a route to school) is scheduled to be delivered in September. Work has been measured and an order will be placed with a contractor shortly. No firm start date is yet confirmed pending confirmation of the contractor's programmes, but early September anticipated. Projected cost - £8k

West Royd Avenue (reconstructed footway) is scheduled to be delivered in September. Works have been measured and an order will be placed with a contractor shortly. No firm start date is yet confirmed pending confirmation of the contractor's programmes, but early September anticipated. Projected cost - £10k

Wrose Brow Road (footway improvements on a route to school) is scheduled to start on 31st July and complete 1st September, before schools re-open for the new term. Projected cost - £16k

Baildon Bank (footpath improvements) will need further design development before delivery, and will not be delivered by the Highways Maintenance (North) Team. On closer inspection, the location and topography has shown that running heavy excavation and surfacing machinery along the footpath is likely to cause movement/damage and the cost to prevent this happening would be prohibitive. Alternative methods for delivering the footpath improvements will need to be considered.

Further infrastructure improvements are under design development by teams in the Planning, Transport & Highways Service.

Plans to improve the canal towpath between Victoria Road Bridge and Salts Mill Road Bridge may no longer need Towns Fund resources, as Sustrans are appointing the Canal & River Trust to resurface the towpath from Shipley to Hirst Lock, following a 2022 project in which the towpath from Appleley Bridge to Shipley was resurfaced. Conservation officers have been assessing the proposals with regards to their suitability for the Saltaire World Heritage Site. Whilst resurfacing the towpath may now be funded by Sustrans, the original vision in the Towns Fund Business Case also considered the need lighting under Otley Road Bridge, and improved signage to the towpath from between View Croft Road, Briggate, Dock Lane via Gallows Bridge and Otley Road, which will still need Towns Fund resources to complete. Sustrans investment may also be considered and match funding into Towns Fund.

Other proposal being developed include better connections from the centre of Shipley to the railway station across the A6038, improved connections to the Canal Road Greenway, improved footpath and cycleway signage, and secure cycle parking facilities.

Real Time Bus Information

A second phase of real time bus information brought to additional bus stops in Shipley.



Delivery of the additional real time bus information installations is from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, who manage the bus stops infrastructure. The West Yorkshire Combined Authority are reporting on seven sites in their latest phase of work, but only four are to be funded by Towns Fund

Bus Stop No.	Bus Stop Location	Status of RTI Installation reported by WYCA
45018652	Bingley Road, Grosvenor Road – Shipley	Fitted
45022854	Bradford Road, Ashfield Avenue – Frizinghall	Requires pole to be fitted – scheduled within a month
45018660	Bradford Road, Norwood Terrace – Shipley	Fitted
45020530	Bingley Road, Dallam Road – Saltaire	Fitted
45018650	Bingley Road, Ferncliffe Road – Saltaire	Requires pole to be fitted – scheduled within a month
45018649	Bingley Road/Bradford Road, Victoria Park – Shipley	Requires pole to be fitted – scheduled within a month
45018861	Oatley Road, Green Lane, Baildon	Requires pole to be fitted – scheduled within a month