

SHEPTON MALLET TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting	Placemaking and Protection Item 2.12
Date	23 February 2021
Author	Project Officer
Subject	Town centre resurfacing

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Councillors on the town centre resurfacing project.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Further to the update and recommendations made at Full Council on 01 December 2020, updates can be provided on the following:

2.2 A number of local residents have contacted the Town Council to enquire about the start date of the works and details about what the final design will look like. As of 16 February, the latest information provided to the town council is that the resurfacing works are expected to begin in mid-March 2021, however a definitive start date has yet to be provided by the contractor. Assurances have been given that a start date will be available by the end of February. In January, the project lead at SCC had been redeployed to assist with vaccination and testing related priorities within SCC.

2.3 Arrangements have been made with the Mendip District Council Markets Manager to ensure a suitable alternative location is found for the market for the duration of the works. Local businesses and market traders have been consulted on the proposal to relocate the market to the top of the High Street for the duration of the works.

2.4 Following a site visit, it was not possible to proceed with the upgrade to three phase power at the Market Place at this time. The sockets will therefore be installed on single phase power as originally planned. These will be supplied to the contractor and installed as part of the works scheme.

2.5 Five cycle stands are to be installed during the works, 2 besides the bench closest to the Amulet theatre and 3 besides the concrete planter connected to the Amulet theatre.

2.6 Following further evaluation of the impact in terms of cost, risk and liability to repurpose the old paving slabs, these will be disposed of by the contractor as originally intended. The contractor has been asked to consider local companies for the recycling or disposal of these materials.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 A budget reconciliation will be carried out with SCC once the final list of works has been agreed and costed.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Town Council have asked that the materials used in the resurfacing be sourced locally where possible and disposed of locally as well.

5.0 TOWN PLAN REFERENCE

Placemaking

Ensure the town centre is attractive and welcoming	Invest in improvements in the Market Place, in partnerships with others Support the retention of the Library in the centre of town and its development into a wider Community Hub Improve the signage, information boards and street furniture to make the town more welcoming
Improve the Built Environment by working with partners to protect it	Integrate the emerging Neighbourhood Plan into local planning policy to ensure that developers are aware of local concerns, influences and desired outcomes when planning for growth

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 For councillors to note this report.