



Investing in your town: Shrewsbury Integrated Transport Package Public Realm Improvements

April 2021

Work has continued on the Shrewsbury ITP Phase 2 Town Centre Paving scheme Phase 2 since January 2021

Obviously, the lockdown continued throughout this period for certain sectors, with closure of non-essential shops intimated until 12th April to comply with Government guidelines to try and restrict the spread of Coronavirus.

The scheme has continued through this time to complete as much paving as physically possible which should hopefully make re-opening of businesses far easier with easier access for customers and deliveries.

Works extend beyond the Government lockdown but by focussing on the main shopping areas, we have endeavoured to ensure we were as advanced as possible in time for re-opening.

There is a further phase of works which will be termed as “The Tannery” and this will encompass Barker Street and St Austin Street and works will commence after the Bank Holiday at the beginning of May.



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Work completed recently

Shoplatch

During a 3 week closure which ended in February, works in this section included the removal of the old black cobbles in the carriageway and replacement with york stone granite setts

Footways were re aligned through this location and a raised table formed to create an improved, level, designated crossing area for pedestrians.



New pedestrian crossing area on Shoplatch



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Claremont Street

A road closure commenced in Claremont Street on 8th February 2021 for 8 weeks

During this period the remainder of the existing concrete kerbs and paving were removed and replaced with granite kerbs and york stone paving.

The road layout has been realigned on Mardol / Claremont bend to offer wider footways and crossing points.

The tarmac carriageway has been excavated and replaced with york stone setts from “The Art Shop” on Mardol around to a new pedestrian crossing point by “Majors” clothing on Claremont Street. This section of work has increased since the initial tender submission.

The area is now level from pavement to pavement [except through parking bays] to make the area more user friendly for pedestrians.

The lower section of Claremont Street will also have been surfaced with new tarmac by the time this newsletter is issued.



Excavation of old carriageway in preparation of new concrete sub base and york stone setts



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Laying York stone setts to carriageway from Mardol into Claremont Street

Roushill / Mardol Junction

During the road closure, surfacing at Roushill / Mardol junction has also been completed. This consisted of a “Hardipave” tarmac and grouted macadam material which will assist longevity of the surface of the junction with vehicles turning.

Once the material is laid it requires 24hrs to cure before being re-opened to traffic so the junction was closed on 18th and 19th March with access to through traffic suspended although residents and deliveries were allowed to access off Smithfield Road for this short period of time.

Darwin’s Gate Square

Where possible existing slabs have been re used in this location.

The slabs around the centre of the sculpture were removed and replaced with green granite paving to highlight the area. Feature symbol slabs are also being laid in this location.

The old sandstone seats are to be removed and replaced with hardwood timber benches as installed in the earlier scheme on Pride Hill.



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Excavating Darwin's Gate Square to prepare for new granite paving



Concrete sub base laid in Darwin Gate Square



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Planned Completion and looking ahead

Completion of the current project is now imminent with the remaining paving works and installation of street furniture being completed. A series of images have been included at the end of this publication to show the wonderful transformation that has taken place as a result of the scheme.

The Council has also been successful in securing additional external funding which means that the new paving and kerbing can be extended along Barker Street and past the Tannery through to Claremont Bank. This provides a consistent palette of materials which links in to the main scheme and will enhance and improve the overall street scene in this area.

The Contractor will continue to pay close attention to accessibility for business and residential properties and will be engaging directly with businesses so that delivery and operating requirements are understood. As with the previous works, every effort will be made to ensure the impact of the works is minimised as far as possible.

It is anticipated that the works will commence on the 10th May for completion by August and discussions are already underway so we are aware of forthcoming events around the town and take these in to account as far as possible when looking at the works programme.

Additional information

There still seems to be an increase in large delivery vehicles trying to navigate through narrow streets and even parking in the carriageway to unload at Bellstone which obviously causes a traffic build up as no vehicles can pass.

Vehicles are also parking on the newly constructed wider footways and reversing into Claremont Street to egress town back towards Smithfield road.

Hopefully some of this will decrease with the introduction of strategically placed street furniture and bollards.

Delivery vehicles have also been witnessed doing a 3 point turn on Shoplatch / Bellstone / St Johns Hill junction and then leaving back along Bellstone. Previously this location was wide enough for vehicles to do a "U turn" but due to reconfigured road layout this is no longer possible.

Vehicles are also parking on the wider pavements but hopefully this will stop with the introduction of strategically placed furniture, planters and bollards.

Footfall and vehicular traffic has increased over the past couple of weeks since the relaxation of the lockdown restrictions and McPhillips have continued to liaise and consult with businesses to advise what works will be taking place.

McPhillips have also been liaising with the Market Manager about current and upcoming works to advise about deliveries. Traffic Marshalls were also in attendance during normal working hours to assist deliveries, elderly and disabled parking.



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Then and now – a look back over the last 12 months



Claremont Street February 2020



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Bellstone February 2020



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Bellstone/Barker Street/Claremont Street February 2020



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Roushill/Mardol junction February 2020



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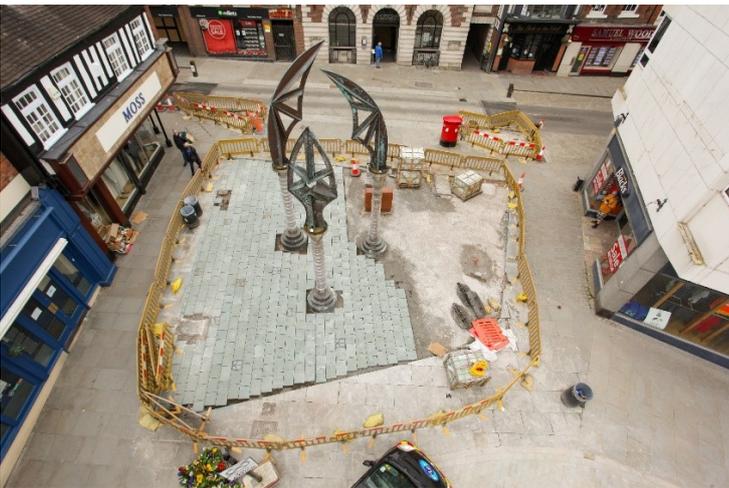
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Mardol looking to Darwin's Gate February 2020



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How you can help us

Please respect our workers space and safety by driving carefully and slowly through the roadworks. Everyone is entitled to a safe workplace. Our men and women work next to moving traffic and risk injury every day.

Please only approach our site personnel if there is an absolute need to do so, and please ensure that you comply with social distancing rules by keeping at least 2m away from any person.

Emergency Contact Details

Andrew Dunham – Project Director McPhillips (Wellington) Limited: 01952 670440

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Out of hours contact: 07778 188027 / 01952 670440



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