

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL  
NOTES OF THE  
HERITAGE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE  
HELD AT WESTON MUSEUM  
ON 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**

**Meeting Commenced:** 10:01 am

**Meeting Concluded:** 11:58 am

**PRESENT:** Councillors John Crockford-Hawley (Chairman), Jan Holloway, Peter Crew and Pete McAleer; Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk - Operational Services), Molly Maher (Development Officer), Matthew Holden (Acting Visitor Services Manager), Sally Heath (Theatre Manager), Becky Walsh (Communications Officer), Sherry Coles (Learning and Events Officer), Cara MacMahon (NSC Heritage Action Zones Project Officer), Richard Blows (Transformation Programme Manager Corporate Services), Fiona Matthews (Culture Weston), Heather Morrissey (Chair of the Friends of the Museum) and Bethan Murray (South West Heritage).

**Three members of the public were present:** Peter Barrington (Civic Society), Izzy Hobson and Costa Macrides (Weston College Students).

<b>209</b>	<b>Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes</b>  Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Marcia Pepperall and Catherine Gibbons, with no substitutions.
<b>210</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>  There were no declarations of interest received.
<b>211</b>	<b>To approve the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>  The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.  <b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Jan Holloway  <b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman
<b>212</b>	<b>Community Grants Budget £50k for 2021/2022</b> The Development Officer reminded members of a decision made at the previous meeting to convene a working group to create criteria for the grants budget. It was noted that a meeting date needed to be arranged, and clarification as to who would be in attendance at a meeting.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> 1. That the Deputy Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk (Operational Services), Development Officer, Councillor John Crockford-Hawley,

	<p>Councillor Peter Crew, Richard Blows and Tom Newman meet to devise criteria.</p> <p>2. That the Development Officer arrange the meeting.</p>
<p><b>213</b></p>	<p><b>Budget for 2021/22</b> The detailed income and expenditure for the Blakehay Theatre and Weston Museum had been previously circulated.</p> <p>Members were pleased with current progress at the end of month 7 and were hopeful of more income after services reopened.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<p><b>214</b></p>	<p><b>Marketing Report</b> The report of the Communications and Marketing Officer had been previously circulated.</p> <p>It was noted that the Ivy Millicent James blue plaque unveiling had been placed on hold due to the delay with the Ivy Millicent exhibition at Weston Museum. It had been decided previously that the unveiling of the blue plaque and the launch of the exhibition would happen in tandem.</p> <p>The Communications Officer advised that black history month had been successful and that for 2022 they were looking to expand to the rest of North Somerset. A member noted that they would like to see more exhibitions of local people with stories about coming to live in Weston.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<p><b>215</b></p>	<p><b>Weston Museum Management Report</b> The report of the Acting Visitor Services Manager had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Acting Museum Manager requested to open on Mondays and Sundays during school holidays. A member noted that this should always be at the discretion of officers as they understood visitor patterns best.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Peter Crew</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>, and accordingly it was</p> <p><b>.1 RESOLVED:</b> That Weston Museum have the ability to open on Sundays and Mondays during the school holidays.</p> <p>The Acting Museum Manager noted that they would like to be able to offer free exhibitions for selected community groups as it was felt that the hire cost of the exhibition boards was too high at £350 per week for the Courtyard and £500 pound per week for the education space. A member suggested that this should be done at the discretion of the Acting Museum Manager and the Chairman. It was noted that due a to previous resolution at the Policy and</p>

	<p>Finance Committee, only the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk had the ability to offer a discount of up to 20%. In order to change this decision, this would need to be referred back to Policy and Finance Committee.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley  <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Peter Crew</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>, and accordingly it was:</p> <p><b>.2 RESOLVED:</b> For the ability of the Acting Museum Manager and Chair of Heritage Arts and Culture Committee, to offer the exhibition boards for free, be referred to the Policy and Finance Committee.</p> <p>A member asked if the Museum was aware of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Fund to fund transport for school groups to the Museum. The manager reported they were in discussions regarding this funding.</p> <p>Given the desire to offer reduced rate exhibition board use, a member asked if the fair trade exhibition at the start of December could be considered. It was clarified that this event would take place before the decision of the Policy and Finance Committee. It was suggested that the member meet with the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk who had authority to discuss a potential 20% reduction. A member suggested that the issue required two separate decisions from the Policy and Finance Committee; the reduction of cost for specific community groups at the suggestion of the Chairman and Museum Manager; and reviewing charges in general.</p> <p>The Acting Museum Manager clarified that whilst function catering was busy, the cafe could not currently operate to best capacity as a result. It was suggested members try and encourage use of the cafe.</p> <p>Spend in the shop had been doubled to 81p per head. The national average was 52p per head and the current Museum key performance indicators were set at £1 per head. It was stated that the Museum gift shop had become more of a local craft gift shop, instead of a pocket money shop. It was explained that many schools discouraged children from bringing spending money.</p> <p>It was queried when the new Museum floor would be laid in the temporary exhibition gallery. The Acting Museum Manager explained there was no firm date for this but when works had begun it would take 4-5 days to complete.</p> <p>The Chairman acknowledged a £1000 grant received for the Rusty Club.</p> <p><b>.3 RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<p><b>216</b></p>	<p><b>Blakehay Report</b>  The report of the Theatre Manager had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Theatre Manager noted that building works in the Theatre were due to be completed on time, with a completion date of the 26<sup>th</sup> November. Decorators would be in the Theatre until the 24<sup>th</sup> December, and a deep clean would be required before opening. Site visits had been booked in for</p>

January bookings to view the Theatre. Open days would be held for councillors and contractors on the 18th January and 20th January. A public open day would be taking place on the 22nd January from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. It was suggested that councillors could view the Theatre week commencing the 6th December. A marketing campaign had begun, highlighting all precautions being taken to a national standard, and tickets were on sale for 2022. It was suggested that there was a need to rebuild people's confidence in visiting the Theatre following the Covid pandemic.

The Blakehay Theatre had been approached by Theatre Orchard and a company called 'In Your Hands' based in Bristol with regards to bringing an alternative Christmas show to the Theatre in December 2022 with a working title of 'Little Red', based on Little Red Riding Hood. The Theatre Manager recognised that holding a Christmas performance for 3 weeks, at the same time as the Playhouse pantomime, with no established audience was a risk. The time frame of 3 weeks would enable one week of school performances and 2 weeks to build on word-of-mouth, and go right up to Christmas. It was suggested that with over a year until performances there was time to build audience anticipation. The Theatre Manager asked for direction regarding funding, with several options provided:

1. Using the current live show budget, due to the cost of the possible show, the current Live Shows budget for the year was £24,000.00 and so this would be looking at spending a vast majority of budget for the year on just 3 weeks.
2. Upping the current Live Shows budget from £24,000.00 to £45,500.00 in the 2022/2023 budget setting process.
3. Cutting down the length of the run to maybe two weeks with one of these being the schools week, which would bring down the cost to £12,500.00.
4. There were current talks about setting up a working group to plan how the £50k events grant budget could be spent, Theatre Orchard could pay for this and apply for a grant and pay for the show this way.
5. Ask the company to look at a straight hire of the Theatre which would be approximately £6,120.00 + VAT per week (dependant on confirmation of details).

*Heather Morrissey left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.*

The Town Clerk noted that the budget was unlikely to be increased. Members agreed that due to major obligations with other services, including HQ, it was unlikely to be increased.

Fiona Matthews offered an alternative suggestion of a Box Office split, where by there would be no cost of hiring the Theatre company, but they would take a percentage of the ticket sales.

*Heather reentered the meeting at 10:48 a.m.*

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor John Crockford-Hawley

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Peter Crew

**RECOMMENDED:** That the Policy and Finance Committee be recommended to agree that the Theatre Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice

	<p>Chairman be given authorisation to offer a Box Office Split.</p> <p>Richard Blows advised that the HAF fund would be extending to the next year and members should discuss programming for the year ahead. The Theatre Manager was advised to speak with Richard Blows and Fiona Matthews to discuss this.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<b>217</b>	<p><b>WSMTC Grant Development</b></p> <p>A confidential red paper report was tabled at the meeting.</p> <p>The Development Officer reported that the Museum had been successful with a grant for the Rusty Club, which had been covered in the Museum Management report. Another grant was also being explored for the learning team, which had already been discussed.</p> <p>At this point, the Chairman advised that the information being discussed was confidential, due to a press embargo. Members of the public were allowed to stay, but asked to be discreet until a time the information was made public.</p> <p>Members were required to give authorisation to accept the grant</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Jan Holloway</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the grant be accepted.</p>
<b>218</b>	<p><b>South West Heritage Trust Update Report</b></p> <p>The report of Bethan Murray had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Work on the William Mable gallery floor was ongoing, which had resulted in a delay to the installation of the Ivy Millicent James exhibition. The exhibition was due to run in the Museum until May 2022, so it was felt there would still be plenty of display time.</p> <p>A meeting had been set for Wednesday 17 November between Sam Astill (Head of Museums), Bethan Murray (Curator of Social History, Costume and Textiles), Sarah Cox (Exhibitions and Programme Manager), Councillor John Crockford-Hawley and Matthew Holden (Deputy Museum Operations Manager) to discuss the future exhibitions programme for Weston Museum.</p> <p>An Ichthyosaur paddle had been installed in Weston Museum's high security case. The paddle was part of the North Somerset Collection.</p> <p>The A1 Camera Club had been photographing the North Somerset Collection, with approximately 15,500 images taken.</p> <p>At this point in the meeting, the Chairman informed members that two minutes' silence would be taken to mark Remembrance Day.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>

<p><b>219</b></p>	<p><b>Friends of Weston Museum Verbal Report</b></p> <p>Heather Morrissey informed members that the Friends of the Museum had met in the Museum for their AGM where a talk was delivered by Councillor Crockford-Hawley regarding Georgian Weston. A talk would be taking place on the 24th November from Dave Hart on the topic of Vikings.</p> <p>On the 15th December there would be a seasonal celebration.</p> <p>There would be a talk in January regarding the lost city of Bristol.</p> <p>The Friends would have a stall at the Royal Hotel fair on Saturday the 13th November, as well as the Museum Christmas fair in December.</p> <p>The Friends were currently fundraising for a dinosaur donation box which would be created by Somerset Wood Recycling.</p> <p>The Friends would welcome a discussion with the Development Officer to discuss grants.</p>
<p><b>220</b></p>	<p><b>North Somerset Council and Heritage Action Zone Report</b></p> <p>The report of the NSC Heritage Action Zone Officer had been previously circulated.</p> <p>North Somerset Council were currently open to public Consultation on the proposal to have an Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights to demolish Stone Walls 1-metre-high or under in the Conservation Area. The consultation period would run until 5pm on 7th December 2021. There had already been 30 responses. A report would be given to Councillor Mark Canniford regarding the results of the consultation. If the decision were to proceed, the Article 4 Direction would come into force 9am on 1st February 2022.</p> <p>It was noted that many retailers had not been keen to invest in the shop front enhancement scheme due to Covid. Material costs had also increased. Cara explained that Historic England would ask for funds back if it was not fully spent by March 2022.</p> <p>Some of the work currently underway included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fork N Ale Pub. Renovations were to commence early 2022.</li><li>• Working up designs with owners of 4-8 and 14-16 Walliscote Road</li><li>• Outline designs for The Centre developed</li><li>• Initial discussions with properties on Oxford Street.</li><li>• Outline designs for the old 'Kendalls' building. 16-28 High Street/ 42-44 Regent Street. Works to restore canopy, with £80,000 from Historic England, with additional funds still required.</li><li>• Designs developed for renovation of The Odeon Cinema. They would be cleaning the cream tiles and replacing the black tiles. Work likely to commence early 2022</li></ul> <p>It was reported that the Heritage Open Days had been successful again.</p>

	<p>It was noted that NSC had voted unanimously to proceed with the rescue of Birnbeck Pier.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<p><b>221</b></p>	<p><b>SEE Monster</b></p> <p>A press release and image of the SEE Monster were previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Richard blows reported that Weston-super-Mare was 1 of 10 places chosen by the government to host projects.</p> <p><i>Assistant Town Clerk (Operational Services) left the meeting at 11:16 a.m.</i></p> <p>Richard advised that the SEE Monster was designed to act as a platform to promote climate change. It was the only project which would be visible from two home nations as its position on the seafront would make it visible from Wales.</p> <p><i>Councillor Jan Holloway left the meeting at 11:21 a.m.</i></p> <p>It was also the only project at a fixed location. A viewing platform would be set up to watch the installation being built.</p> <p><i>Assistant Town Clerk (Operational Services) reentered the meeting at 11:23 a.m.</i></p> <p>The SEE Monster would start arriving in May 2022 with the opening due the 7th July 2022.</p> <p>The Communications Officer advised that she would be working as a Community Manager on the project, and employed by New Substance. It was explained that as well as being focused on climate change it would also act as a performance space for the arts.</p> <p><i>Councillor Holloway reentered the meeting at 11:25 a.m.</i></p> <p>The Chairman noted the significance of the project being launched in Weston Museum.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report be noted.</p>
<p><b>222</b></p>	<p><b>Culture Weston and Theatre Orchard Update Report</b></p> <p>Fiona Matthews noted events.</p> <p>The Arts and Health week had taken place in September which included an art installation from Luke Jerram called In Memoriam.</p> <p>An event called Lullaby would be taking place at the end of November, which also featured Luke Jerram, a bicycle delivered light show. This event coincided with the Christmas lights switch on.</p>

	<p>Various poetry events would be taking place.</p> <p>On the 23rd November there was an event with young adult refugees at Weston Museum. This event would work to reflect different cultures.</p> <p>A meeting was scheduled with the Acting Museum Manager to discuss how Culture Weston might work with the Museum in the future.</p> <p>A bandstand was to be erected in Big Lamp Corner. It was hoped that a panel would be convened to help program the bandstand which would be in situ for 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>The boredom Buster volume 3 was in publication.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the verbal report be noted.</p>
<p><b>223</b></p>	<p><b>Town Council Involvement in The Old Town Quarry –Update</b></p> <p>The report of the Deputy Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>In the absence of the Deputy Town Clerk, the Town Clerk gave an update. Taking over of the quarry had been stalled due to project costs, in general and in particular demolition of Building 1. It was noted that NSC had agreed that they would absorb the demolition costs.</p> <p>The Chairman queried the £12,500 spend for reports and surveys in preparation of planning. It was explained that they were part of the planning requirements.</p> <p>The Chairman felt that costs needed to be reviewed.</p> <p>It was suggested that officers from the Town Council and North Somerset Council meet with the Civic Society to progress.</p> <p>At this point in the meeting Standing Orders were suspended.</p> <p>A question was taken from a member of the public. Peter Barrington stated that when the building was condemned, the Civic Society were told they would have to fund the demolition, with a cost of £85,000. The Civic Society Lease was with North Somerset Council, and Weston-super-Mare Town Council would be taking over. Peter asked for clarification regarding the relationship between the two councils.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had agreed to manage the demolition, which included the procurement, as the Town Council could do this more quickly and cheaply than North Somerset Council. The Assistant Town Clerk clarified that the Town Council would be project managing the demolition as North Somerset Council did not have the capacity.</p> <p>At this point in the meeting Standing Orders were resumed.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor John Crockford-Hawley</p>



	<p><b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Jan Holloway</p> <p>A vote was taken and <b>carried</b>, and accordingly it was:</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. That a meeting be arranged between Weston-super-Mare Town Council, North Somerset Council and the Civic Society to discuss progress and understand costs associated with the demolition project.</li><li>2. To approve the appointment of SJ surveyors to undertake the Project Management for the Demolition works and all associated works working with WSMTC and necessary NSC Officers.</li><li>3. To note that the budget will be managed by WSMTC and that if there was any increase in overall costs, further negotiation with NSC would need to be planned as and when needed.</li></ol>
224	<p><b>Suggestions for future blue plaques for discussion</b></p> <p>Two suggestions for inclusion had been circulated prior to the meeting for consideration.</p> <p><b>Laurel and Hardy:</b> It was felt that the justification for a plaque was not strong enough as they had only visited briefly as had many performers over the years.</p> <p><b>Richie Blackmore:</b> The Town Clerk apologised for the incorrect name on the agenda. Richie Blackmore was a founding member of Deep Purple and was born in Weston-super-Mare. The suggestion for a blue plaque had been made by a member of the public, and a petition with over 900 signatures had been obtained.</p> <p>The committee felt this would not be a suitable blue plaque, as policy both locally and nationally was that blue plaques were a form of posthumous recognition, and Richie Blackmore was still alive.</p> <p>The Chairman suggested a decision needed to be made whether the next round of plaques would focus on people or buildings.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the meeting concluded at 11:58 am.</p> <p>Signed.....Dated.....</p> <p>Chairman of the Heritage Arts and Culture Committee</p>

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<b>120 Blakehay Central Costs</b>							
4000 Staffing Costs	4,190	38,528	61,470	22,942		22,942	62.7%
4013 Training	0	518	1,753	1,235		1,235	29.5%
4014 P P E / Health & Safety	0	809	3,500	2,691		2,691	23.1%
4019 Website Costs-TC	0	140	500	360		360	28.0%
4030 Equipment Purchase	0	25	5,000	4,975		4,975	0.5%
4031 Equipment - Rental	72	546	1,162	616		616	47.0%
4034 Equipment Repairs	0	3	500	497		497	0.6%
4035 Telephone	125	1,066	1,400	334		334	76.1%
4043 Ink Cartridges/printing	0	54	0	(54)		(54)	0.0%
4044 Insurance	0	3,055	562	(2,493)		(2,493)	543.6%
4102 NNDR	349	3,596	3,600	4		4	99.9%
4104 Utilities - Water	0	93	924	831		831	10.1%
4105 Utilities - Heat & Light	774	3,394	7,126	3,732		3,732	47.6%
4109 Alarm system	0	340	1,000	660		660	34.0%
4110 Cleaning	1,953	1,953	5,000	3,047		3,047	39.1%
4111 Window Cleaning	0	110	300	190		190	36.7%
4114 Refuse Removal	83	2,456	1,500	(956)		(956)	163.8%
4131 Licenses	15	440	1,191	752		752	36.9%
4136 Credit Card Chgs	29	149	0	(149)		(149)	0.0%
6000 Admin Salaries Recharge	2,206	17,953	18,562	609		609	96.7%
6005 Admin Overhead Recharge	374	6,422	7,038	616		616	91.2%
6007 Grove House Recharge	78	874	500	(374)		(374)	174.8%
6008 Grove Lodge Recharges	74	617	420	(197)		(197)	146.9%
6010 Grounds Salaries Recharge	231	1,975	2,415	440		440	81.8%
6015 Grounds Overhead Recharge	76	598	632	34		34	94.6%
Blakehay Central Costs :- Indirect Expenditure	10,627	85,713	126,055	40,342	0	40,342	68.0%
Net Expenditure	(10,627)	(85,713)	(126,055)	(40,342)			
<b>121 Blakehay -Auditorium</b>							
1013 BH annual membership	0	20	100	80			20.0%
1090 Bookings	0	627	16,789	16,162			3.7%
Blakehay -Auditorium :- Income	0	647	16,889	16,242			3.8%
4000 Staffing Costs	1,793	16,135	27,379	11,244		11,244	58.9%
4039 Advertising & Marketing	152	152	3,000	2,848		2,848	5.1%
4224 Blakehay Performing Rights	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%
Blakehay -Auditorium :- Indirect Expenditure	1,945	16,287	30,879	14,592	0	14,592	52.7%
Net Income over Expenditure	(1,945)	(15,640)	(13,990)	1,650			

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<u>122 Blakehay - Upper Studio</u>							
1014 BH evening classes income	0	0	1,050	1,050			0.0%
1015 Internal Bookings (Council)	0	0	3,660	3,660			0.0%
1090 Bookings	0	(50)	12,000	12,050			(0.4%)
Blakehay - Upper Studio :- Income	0	(50)	16,710	16,760			(0.3%)
4141 BH evening classes expenditure	0	0	750	750		750	0.0%
Blakehay - Upper Studio :- Indirect Expenditure	0	0	750	750	0	750	0.0%
Net Income over Expenditure	0	(50)	15,960	16,010			
<u>123 Blakehay Bar</u>							
1193 Blakehay Bar Events Hire	0	0	2,025	2,025			0.0%
1194 Blakehay Bar Income	0	0	15,000	15,000			0.0%
Blakehay Bar :- Income	0	0	17,025	17,025			0.0%
4000 Staffing Costs	0	0	6,464	6,464		6,464	0.0%
4031 Equipment - Rental	96	943	2,574	1,631		1,631	36.6%
4405 Blakehay Bar Expenditure	0	0	5,000	5,000		5,000	0.0%
Blakehay Bar :- Indirect Expenditure	96	943	14,038	13,095	0	13,095	6.7%
Net Income over Expenditure	(96)	(943)	2,987	3,930			
<u>124 Blakehay Box Office</u>							
1105 Blakehay Box office income	112	112	4,547	4,435			2.5%
Blakehay Box Office :- Income	112	112	4,547	4,435			2.5%
4031 Equipment - Rental	22	44	0	(44)		(44)	0.0%
4036 Stationery	0	32	500	468		468	6.4%
4136 Credit Card Chgs	0	0	528	528		528	0.0%
Blakehay Box Office :- Indirect Expenditure	22	76	1,028	952	0	952	7.4%
Net Income over Expenditure	90	36	3,519	3,483			
<u>125 Blakehay -Live Shows</u>							
1106 Blakehay events income	0	2,205	48,000	45,796			4.6%
Blakehay -Live Shows :- Income	0	2,205	48,000	45,796			4.6%
4016 Show costs	0	0	24,000	24,000		24,000	0.0%
4039 Advertising & Marketing	0	0	2,400	2,400		2,400	0.0%
Blakehay -Live Shows :- Indirect Expenditure	0	0	26,400	26,400	0	26,400	0.0%
Net Income over Expenditure	0	2,205	21,600	19,396			

## Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 19/01/2022

Month No: 9

## Cost Centre Report

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
Grand Totals:- Income	112	2,913	103,171	100,258			2.8%
Expenditure	12,690	103,018	199,150	96,132	0	96,132	51.7%
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(12,578)</u>	<u>(100,105)</u>	<u>(95,979)</u>	<u>4,126</u>			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(12,578)</u>	<u>(100,105)</u>					

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<u>140 Museum Central Costs</u>							
1034 Grant funding	0	4,471	0	(4,471)			0.0%
1100 Miscellaneous Income	0	3,003	7,500	4,497			40.0%
1122 Fundraising	307	365	0	(365)			0.0%
<b>Museum Central Costs :- Income</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>7,838</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>(338)</b>			<b>104.5%</b>
4000 Staffing Costs	9,304	92,515	108,678	16,163		16,163	85.1%
4012 Travel & Subsistence Expenses	8	337	200	(137)		(137)	168.4%
4013 Training	200	2,295	3,727	1,432		1,432	61.6%
4014 P P E / Health & Safety	0	866	1,000	134		134	86.6%
4019 Website Costs-TC	0	1,086	600	(486)		(486)	181.0%
4030 Equipment Purchase	0	1,069	1,500	431		431	71.3%
4031 Equipment - Rental	22	294	1,616	1,322		1,322	18.2%
4034 Equipment Repairs	0	238	200	(38)		(38)	118.8%
4035 Telephone	272	2,284	1,600	(684)		(684)	142.8%
4036 Stationery	28	266	200	(66)		(66)	133.0%
4039 Advertising & Marketing	34	1,872	4,000	2,128		2,128	46.8%
4041 Fees, Subs and Conferences	0	168	400	233		233	41.9%
4044 Insurance	0	2,905	1,200	(1,705)		(1,705)	242.1%
4102 NNDR	5,325	49,095	54,622	5,527		5,527	89.9%
4104 Utilities - Water	13	289	978	689		689	29.6%
4105 Utilities - Heat & Light	1,059	7,301	12,798	5,497		5,497	57.0%
4108 Building / Maintenance	0	25	0	(25)		(25)	0.0%
4109 Alarm system	40	1,281	1,000	(281)		(281)	128.1%
4110 Cleaning	888	8,108	12,000	3,892		3,892	67.6%
4111 Window Cleaning	50	400	600	200		200	66.7%
4114 Refuse Removal	86	3,951	1,800	(2,151)		(2,151)	219.5%
4131 Licenses	42	564	1,600	1,036		1,036	35.2%
4136 Credit Card Chgs	29	29	0	(29)		(29)	0.0%
4161 Volunteer Training	0	139	0	(139)		(139)	0.0%
4214 Somerset County Council - SLA	0	0	70,843	70,843		70,843	0.0%
6000 Admin Salaries Recharge	2,617	21,303	22,024	721		721	96.7%
6005 Admin Overhead Recharge	444	7,620	8,347	727		727	91.3%
6007 Grove House Recharge	93	1,037	271	(766)		(766)	382.7%
6008 Grove Lodge Recharges	87	733	633	(100)		(100)	115.8%
6010 Grounds Salaries Recharge	231	1,975	2,415	440		440	81.8%
6015 Grounds Overhead Recharge	76	598	632	34		34	94.6%
<b>Museum Central Costs :- Indirect Expenditure</b>	<b>20,948</b>	<b>210,641</b>	<b>315,484</b>	<b>104,843</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>104,843</b>	<b>66.8%</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>(20,641)</b>	<b>(202,803)</b>	<b>(307,984)</b>	<b>(105,181)</b>			

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
<b>141 Museum Learning and Events</b>							
1006 Learning Income	167	3,164	0	(3,164)			0.0%
1008 Museum handling box hire	(35)	1,190	0	(1,190)			0.0%
1103 Other event misc income	0	593	0	(593)			0.0%
<b>Museum Learning and Events :- Income</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>4,947</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(4,947)</b>			
4000 Staffing Costs	2,712	21,962	18,885	(3,077)		(3,077)	116.3%
4020 Learning/Event education equip	146	513	1,000	487		487	51.3%
4039 Advertising & Marketing	0	639	1,000	361		361	63.9%
4058 Learning/Events Museum events	(100)	168	0	(168)		(168)	0.0%
<b>Museum Learning and Events :- Indirect Expenditure</b>	<b>2,758</b>	<b>23,282</b>	<b>20,885</b>	<b>(2,397)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,397)</b>	<b>111.5%</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>(2,626)</b>	<b>(18,335)</b>	<b>(20,885)</b>	<b>(2,550)</b>			
<b>142 Museum Cafe</b>							
1004 Cafe Sales	1,591	20,389	62,000	41,611			32.9%
<b>Museum Cafe :- Income</b>	<b>1,591</b>	<b>20,389</b>	<b>62,000</b>	<b>41,611</b>			<b>32.9%</b>
4000 Staffing Costs	2,992	26,345	44,616	18,271		18,271	59.0%
4014 P P E / Health & Safety	0	159	1,500	1,341		1,341	10.6%
4015 SLA Somerset	0	0	1,824	1,824		1,824	0.0%
4030 Equipment Purchase	0	797	500	(297)		(297)	159.4%
4031 Equipment - Rental	0	52	0	(52)		(52)	0.0%
4058 Learning/Events Museum events	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%
4110 Cleaning	0	406	845	439		439	48.1%
4114 Refuse Removal	135	671	800	129		129	83.9%
4151 Catering	0	191	500	309		309	38.2%
4406 Bar Stock	382	1,903	2,500	597		597	76.1%
4407 Museum cafe stock	1,941	8,692	13,000	4,308		4,308	66.9%
<b>Museum Cafe :- Indirect Expenditure</b>	<b>5,450</b>	<b>39,216</b>	<b>67,085</b>	<b>27,869</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27,869</b>	<b>58.5%</b>
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>(3,859)</b>	<b>(18,827)</b>	<b>(5,085)</b>	<b>13,742</b>			
<b>143 Museum shop/retail</b>							
1004 Cafe Sales	11	11	0	(11)			0.0%
1005 Museum Shop Sales	1,555	7,374	13,500	6,126			54.6%
1009 Museum sale or return comm	0	2,341	4,000	1,659			58.5%
<b>Museum shop/retail :- Income</b>	<b>1,567</b>	<b>9,726</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>7,774</b>			<b>55.6%</b>
4031 Equipment - Rental	0	1,216	0	(1,216)		(1,216)	0.0%
4136 Credit Card Chgs	0	120	312	192		192	38.4%

## Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading 19/01/2022

Month No: 9

## Cost Centre Report

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
4408 Museum shop stock	1,699	5,126	7,000	1,874		1,874	73.2%
Museum shop/retail :- Indirect Expenditure	1,699	6,462	7,312	850	0	850	88.4%
Net Income over Expenditure	(132)	3,264	10,188	6,924			
<b>144 Museum Temporary Gallery</b>							
4039 Advertising & Marketing	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%
Museum Temporary Gallery :- Indirect Expenditure	0	0	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	0.0%
Net Expenditure	0	0	(1,000)	(1,000)			
<b>145 Museum Function</b>							
1019 Internal Bookings (Council)	0	90	2,040	1,950			4.4%
1103 Other event misc income	0	0	9,000	9,000			0.0%
1104 Function Income	2,796	6,375	9,000	2,625			70.8%
1108 Handling Boxes	0	0	1,575	1,575			0.0%
Museum Function :- Income	2,796	6,465	21,615	15,150			29.9%
4000 Staffing Costs	0	0	32,819	32,819		32,819	0.0%
4030 Equipment Purchase	0	1,745	3,000	1,255		1,255	58.2%
4039 Advertising & Marketing	729	855	1,500	645		645	57.0%
Museum Function :- Indirect Expenditure	729	2,600	37,319	34,719	0	34,719	7.0%
Net Income over Expenditure	2,066	3,865	(15,704)	(19,569)			
<b>Grand Totals:- Income</b>	6,392	49,365	108,615	59,250			45.4%
<b>Expenditure</b>	31,583	282,201	449,085	166,884	0	166,884	62.8%
<b>Net Income over Expenditure</b>	(25,191)	(232,837)	(340,470)	(107,633)			
<b>Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve</b>	(25,191)	(232,837)					

## **Heritage, Arts and Culture Committee January 2022**

Communication and Marketing Report - written by Becky Walsh, Communications and Marketing Officer

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Agenda Item No.5 – Communication and Marketing Report

### **Blue Plaques**

Ivy Millicent James will go up when we have a date for the museum exhibition.

*Members requested to note this report.*



## Heritage, Arts and Culture Committee January 2022

Museum Progress Report - written by Matthew Holden, Acting Museum Operations Manager

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Footfall continues to move in the right direction with us averaging eighty visitors per day since summer. However, in the new year numbers have dropped off significantly probably due to nervousness around the new Covid variant.

The flooring in the William Mable gallery continues to be a huge problem. We waited five months for it to arrive and now it has been “lost” by the contractor. A rotating exhibition offer is one of the major draws of Weston Museum. It is absolutely key to repeat footfall. Being without the exhibition for over half a year now has had a hugely detrimental effect.

The museum is due to be closed on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March. This is so that we can hold an all-day Special Educational Needs session. The museum needs to control elements such as lighting, noise and footfall so that everyone who visits is comfortable. Another closure date pencilled in is 3<sup>rd</sup> September. This is to allow for an all-day wedding.

The café is currently going through a transitional period. The previous Catering Supervisor, Harvey Kay, has now left his post and recruitment for new staff has begun. The café shall move in a new direction with an emphasis on locally sourced produce and an expanded menu.

Volunteers are planning for the Then and Now Exhibition in March. Drop in sessions are taking place at the museum the first Saturday of the month. An outreach session took place in Portishead Library. The young ambassadors are working on their funded exhibition to be held in February and Jane Hill ran a session to help them prepare. Resources and equipment are being ordered.

Three community boxes were loaned out before Christmas. A community outreach session will take place at Nailsea in January. The Hildesheim exhibition in the Community Gallery has been extended until Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The programme of Thursday morning gallery talks has gone well and will continue into 2022 with volunteer support.

Over the past three months, the shop’s average spend per head has increased to £1.13. The national average is 52p per head. We also had our busiest ever quarter over the Christmas period, and successfully sold over 50% of our custom-made calendars. Product ideas for 2022/2023 are now in development, including custom-printed postcards.

The learning team have already begun to take bookings for sessions in February whilst handling boxes are almost going out at full capacity.

Rusty Club were very pleased to be awarded a grant from the Young Archaeologist’s parent organisation and have begun working on a ‘Hidden Histories’ project. The culmination of this will be an exhibition in the upstairs Function Suite during the February half term, with content created by the members themselves.

For the first time we were offered central government funding (Holiday Activity Food Programme) to provide activity days for local children from disadvantaged families. For 3 days in December during the school holiday we ran daily sessions, which included both activities and food provision. Our next major event on the horizon is History Week during the February half term, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday 25<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteering continues to be a real strength. October and November had the lowest number of vacant shifts for front of house and café since re opening in 2017. Love the Outdoors is currently on hold until February. The volunteers at the community fridge have really embraced the project and are delighted with the six-month extension to the lease at the Sovereign Centre

Total Volunteer Hours During 2021 – 4564

Number of active volunteers – 128

**Members are requested:** To note this report

## Heritage and Arts Committee Meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Blakehay Theatre Management Report written by Sally Heath, Theatre Manager

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### Overview

As you may be aware, the provisional re-opening plan that was reported in the November 2021 HAC Committee management report has been slightly delayed. We have set out a [provisional re-opening plan here](#) and the theatre manager is having a meeting with the contractors on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022, and so should be able to give a verbal update at the meeting.

In November and December 2021, the recruitment of Front of House and Tech casual staff for the theatre was completed and these staff members have completed their induction. The Marketing and Events Co-Ordinator (Jasmine Ryle) will return from Maternity Leave on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

Updates to [5 Year Plan](#) / [Marketing statistics](#). We have now completed another year of our marketing statistics for our Website and Social Media platforms.

### Re-Opening Blakehay Theatre

As you are aware, we were hoping to re-open the theatre in January 2022, however there have been some delays to this plan, due to delays in the completion of the building works. All companies were made aware in early December 2021 that there may be a delay and have been in constant contact with all updates on the situation as soon as it has been known. There have been two shows that have been postponed and one of these has been rescheduled and is back on sale, with the other awaiting to confirm a new date for March 2022.

Therefore, we are currently working towards the following revised dates;

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Open the studios/Theatre bar for Community Classes and Meetings.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Open day for Cllrs and Hirers only

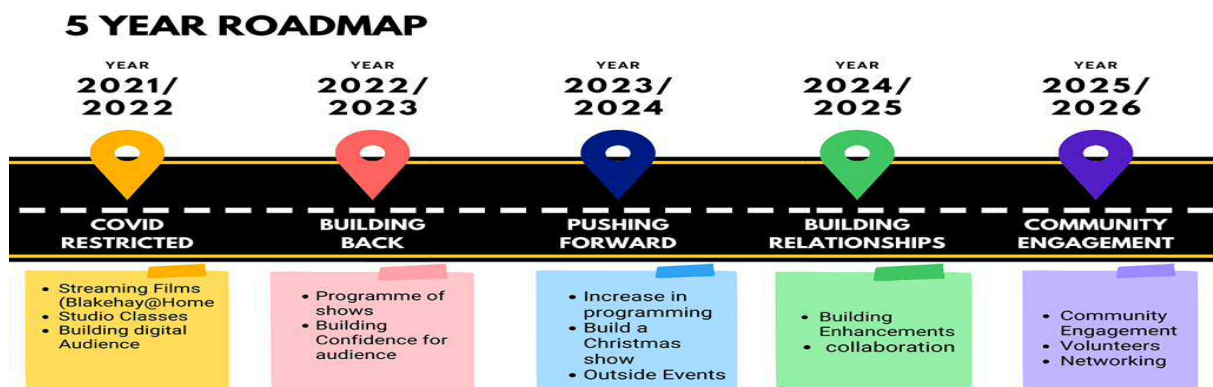
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Public Open Day at the theatre

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February – First performance (Wrestling)

Once we are able to confirm the re-opening plan we will issue an official press release and confirm the open days in February which we hope that you will be able to attend.

### 5 Year Plan

Further to the May 2021 report to this committee the theatre is still on track with the 5 year plan road map.



**Marketing statistics Update**

Following on from the report to committee in January 2021, please see below an update on

**1.2 Strategy – Continue to develop and improve the content of the Town Councils websites and social media**

Improved Website traffic and Social Media presence;

Reporting Period	Website Reach	Facebook Page Reach	Twitter Account Reach	Instagram Reach
January to December 2020	15,518	215,898	42,781	3,213
(% increase)	Down 56%	Down 84%	Up 65%	Up 271%
January to December 2021	8,002	182,461	67,304	8,306

The Website and Facebook reach is very dependant on shows and events. For example, our Website had the most hits in April to June 2021 during the time that we were marketing the ‘Comedy at the Quarry’ in June 2021. The Facebook also increased during this period and also during the period of October to December 2021 when the new shows for 2022 were launched.

The theatre’s Twitter reach was over 45k in June 2021 alone, this was due to the ‘Comedy at the Quarry’ and comedians use Twitter more than any other social media platform.

The Instagram account has been consistently viewed with traction building on this platform all of the time.

Members are requested to;

1. Note the Managers report

## **10. South West Heritage Trust (SWHT) Report Heritage, Arts and Culture Committee 19.01.2022**

### **Work programme:**

#### **Collections**

The Curator has continued uploading to the collections database images taken by the A1 Camera Club volunteers. There are now 6,633 records with images. This amounts to approximately 17,700 individual images. There are still approximately 1,400 images left to upload and it is anticipated that this work will be completed in the next few weeks. The database of images is a very valuable asset and we greatly appreciate how much work has been undertaken by the Camera Club volunteers.

Work has also started on carrying out a locations audit of the photographic and postcard collections. The audit will make the collections more accessible to the Weston Museum team and other users. In total, 64% of the North Somerset collections now have an updated location.

A further set of data relating to 100 works has been sent to Art UK for inclusion on the Art UK website. This upload will be viewable on the site in the coming months, helping to create a clearer picture of the fine art on display at Weston Museum.

#### **Exhibition Development:**

Work on the William Mable gallery floor is still ongoing. This has meant that the Ivy Millicent James exhibition has not yet been installed.

A productive meeting was held on 17 November 2021 between Sam Astill (Head of Museums), Bethan Murray (Curator of Social History, Costume and Textiles) Sarah Cox (Exhibitions and Programme Manager) and Matthew Holden (Deputy Museum Operations Manager) to discuss the future exhibitions programme for Weston Museum.

The meeting discussed aspirations for the future programme and how we can implement these ideas. The programme for the year ahead is set out below.

#### **Future Work:**

The curator is currently working on two projects with Jane Hill (Community Liaison Officer) which will culminate in exhibitions in the Community Gallery. The first is part of the Know Your Place, Then and Now project. Volunteers are hoping to use images from the photographic collections to show locations in the town in the past and how they look now.

The second is part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone project. This project will result in an exhibition, using parts of the collections, to tell the story of the town centre.

We also hope to be able to provide content for the 'Sea Monster' coming later this year.

## **Temporary Exhibitions:**

Due to the work being undertaken in the William Mable gallery please note that exhibition dates, as set out below, are a guide only.

### ***Sentimental Journeys: The Art and Life of Ivy Millicent James*** ***(in-house exhibition)***

**2022 Slot 1: TBC – 22 May 2022**

**Project Lead: Michele Green (Assistant Curator)/Bethan Murray (Curator of Social History, Costume and Textiles)**

This exhibition will showcase the work of Weston artist Ivy Millicent James (1879-1965), a celebrated postcard artist. She made her name at the turn of the 20th century in the postcard boom that spread across Europe due to the development of mass travel and the growing popularity of summer holiday resorts. The exhibition will feature a selection of her original watercolours, postcard and Christmas card designs, sketch books and personal effects from the North Somerset Council museum collections.

### ***The World of Martin Brown: Horrible Histories and other Dazzling Drawings***

**2022 Slot 2: 4 June – 9 October**

**Project Lead: Sarah Cox (Exhibitions and Programme Manager)**

This exhibition will showcase the cartoons and art by *Horrible Histories* illustrator Martin Brown. Previously on display at the Museum of Somerset, it is a family-focused exhibition of the highly recognisable work of this world-famous children's illustrator.

### ***Natural History Museum's Wildlife Photographer of the Year (TBC)*** ***(hired in exhibition)***

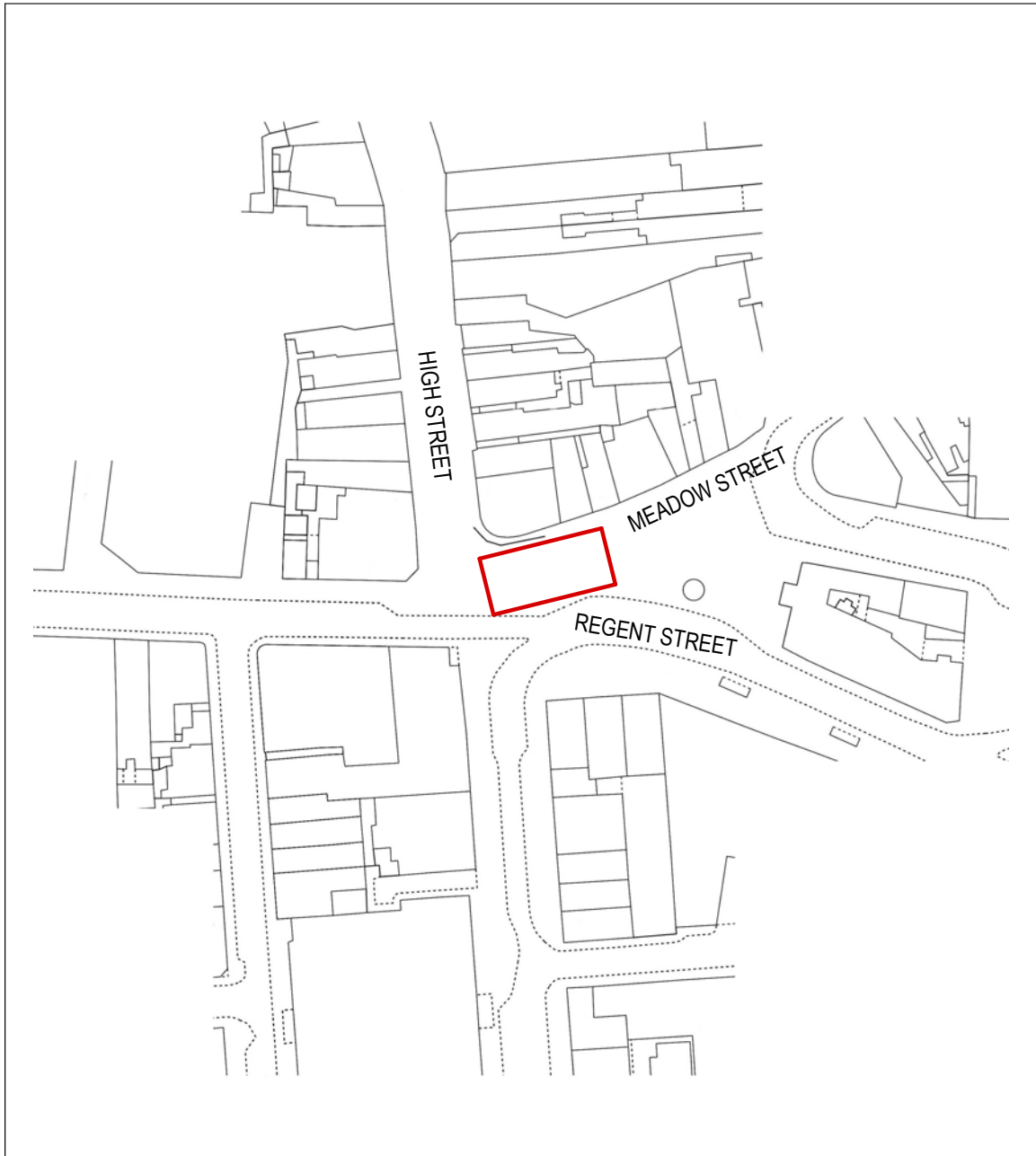
**2022 Slot 3: 22 October - TBC**

**Project Lead: Sarah Cox (Exhibitions and Programme Manager)**

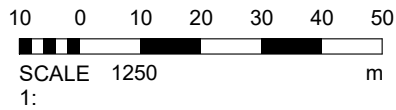
Discover the world's best nature photography with the new Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, exhibited on 100 panels.

**Recommendation:** Members are asked to note the report and approve the exhibitions programme for the forward year.

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NORTH



## SITE LOCATION PLAN

REVISION: -

DATE: JAN 2022



The Studio  
33 Savernake Road  
Weston-super-Mare  
North Somerset  
BS22 9HQ

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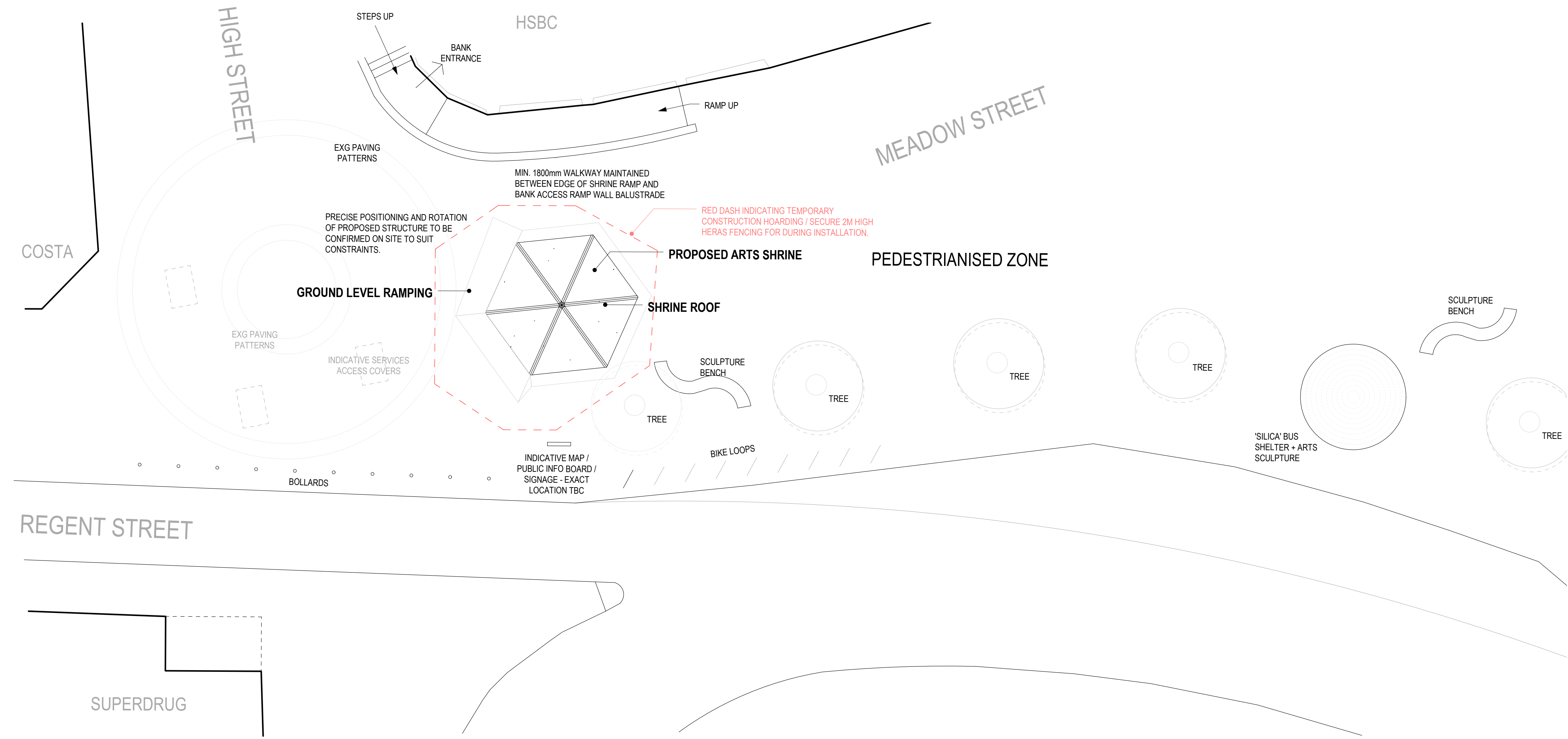
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INDICATIVE 3D SKETCH PERSPECTIVE  
VIEW FROM HIGH STREET - NTS

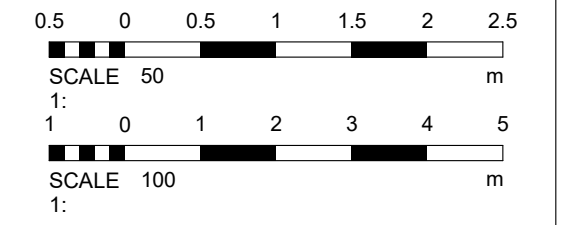


INDICATIVE 3D SKETCH PERSPECTIVE  
VIEW FROM MEADOW STREET - NTS



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Rev.	Date	Description

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Drawing Status  
**PLANNING**

Project Number  
2110ASW

Drawing Title  
**PROPOSED ARTSHRINE  
SITE LAYOUT / GA PLAN**

Project Address  
**BIG LAMP CORNER  
HIGH STREET, WESTON-SUPER-MARE**

Client  
**CULTURE  
WESTON**

Scale  
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Original Size  
A1  
Creation Date  
JAN 2022

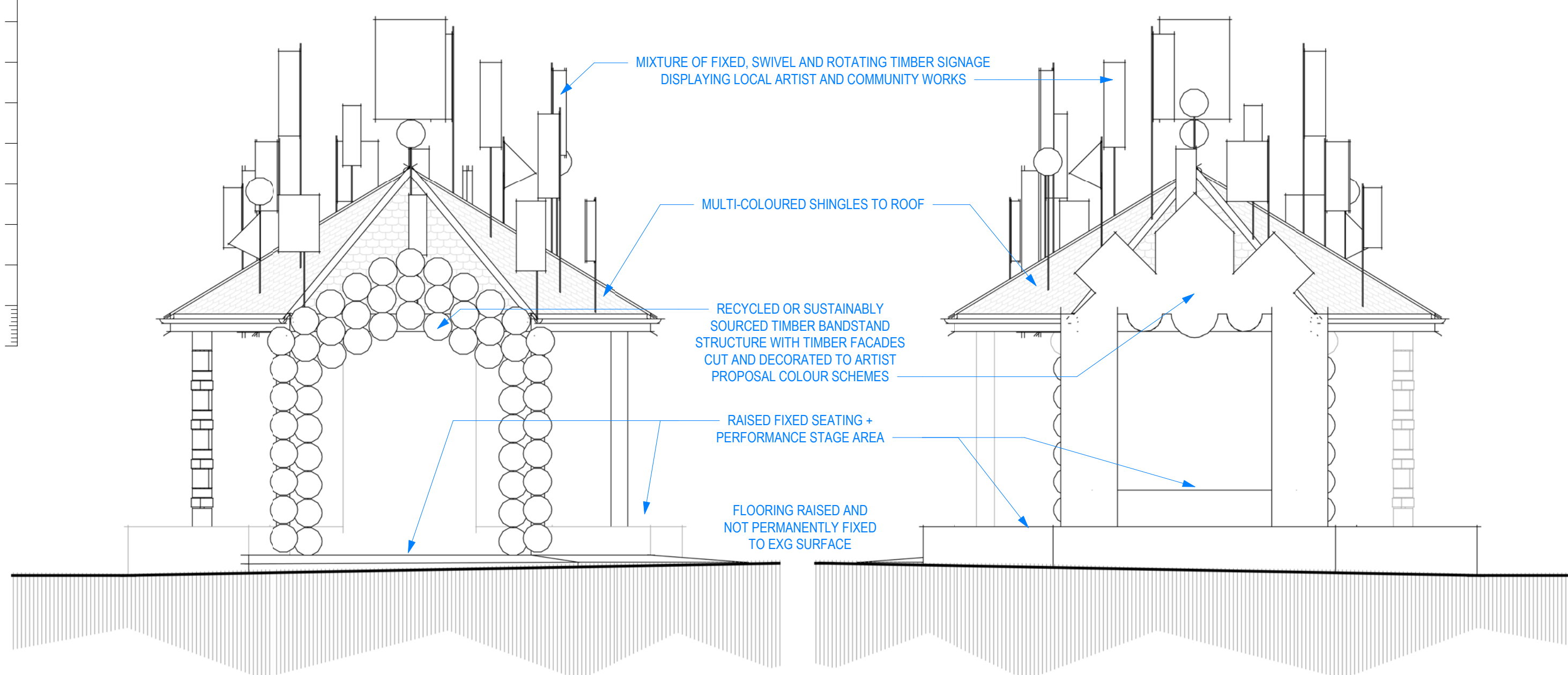
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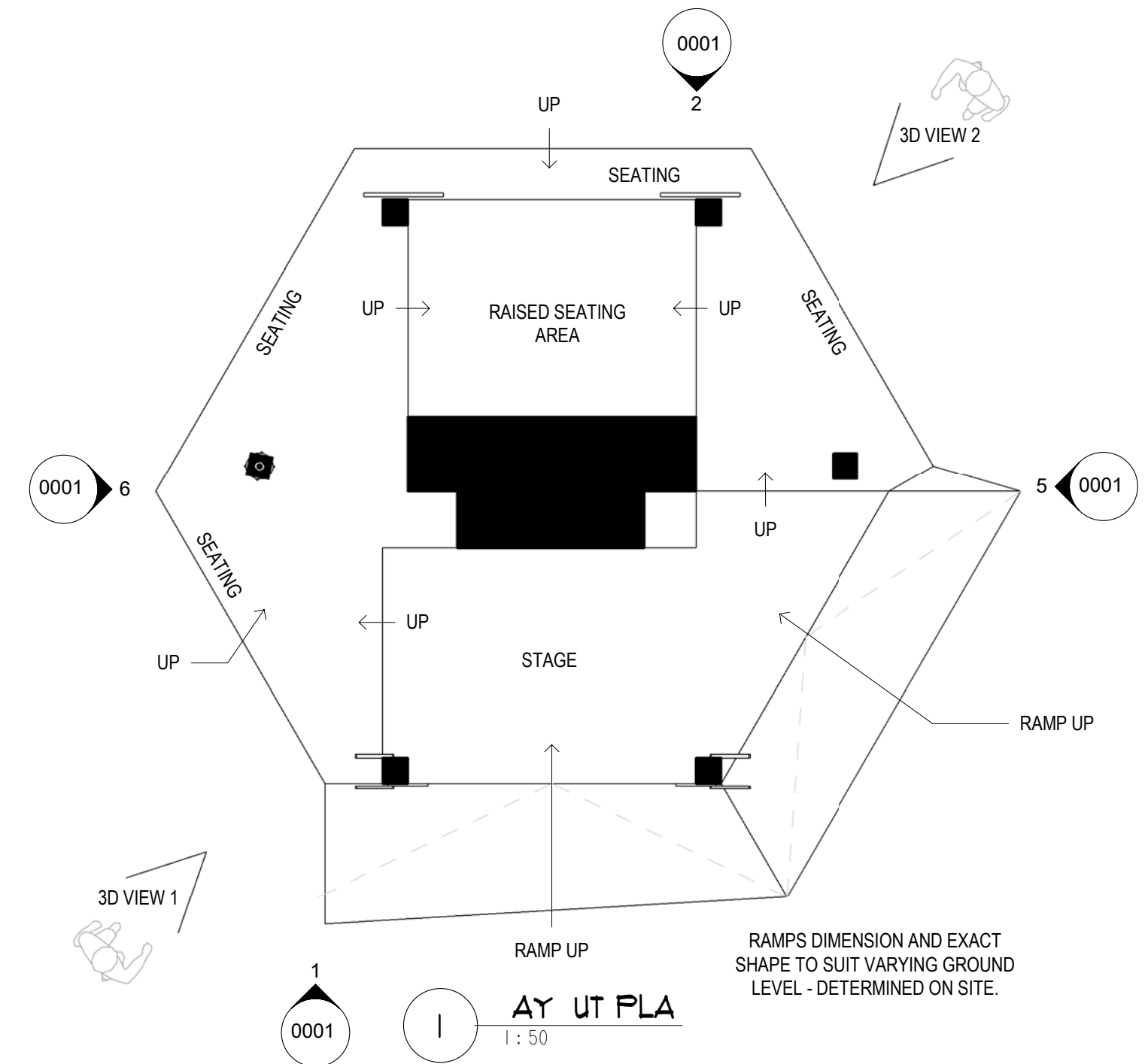


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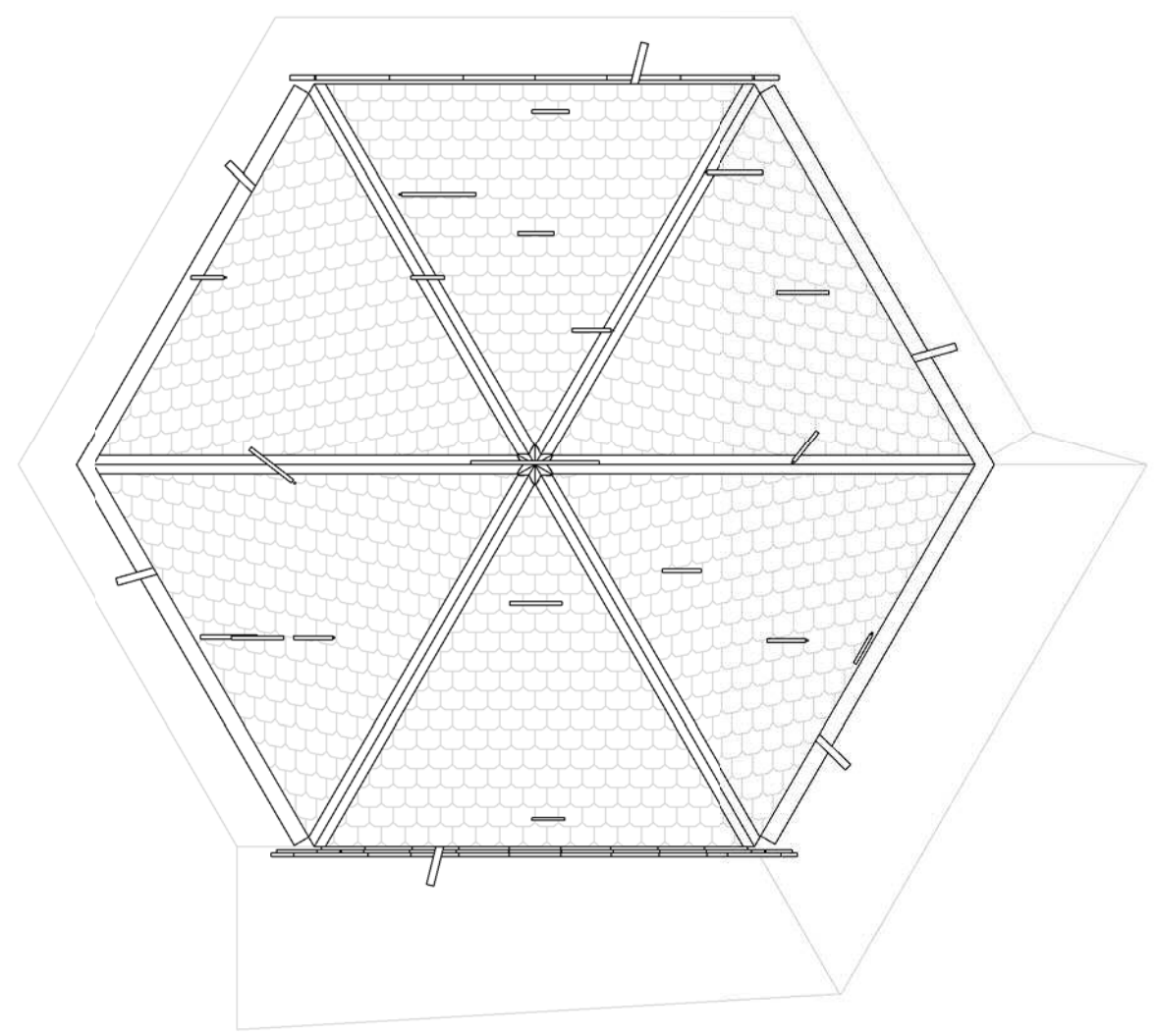


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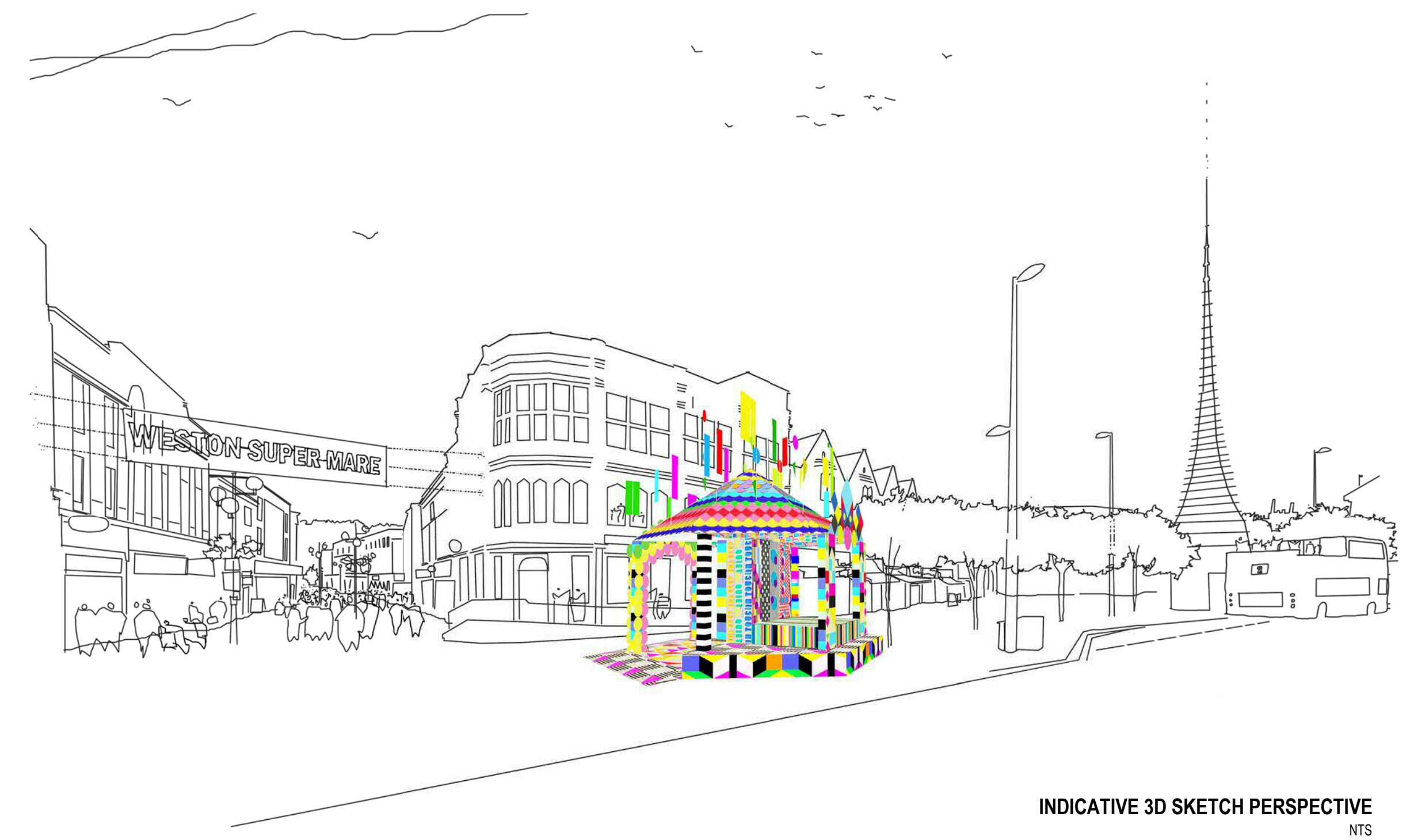
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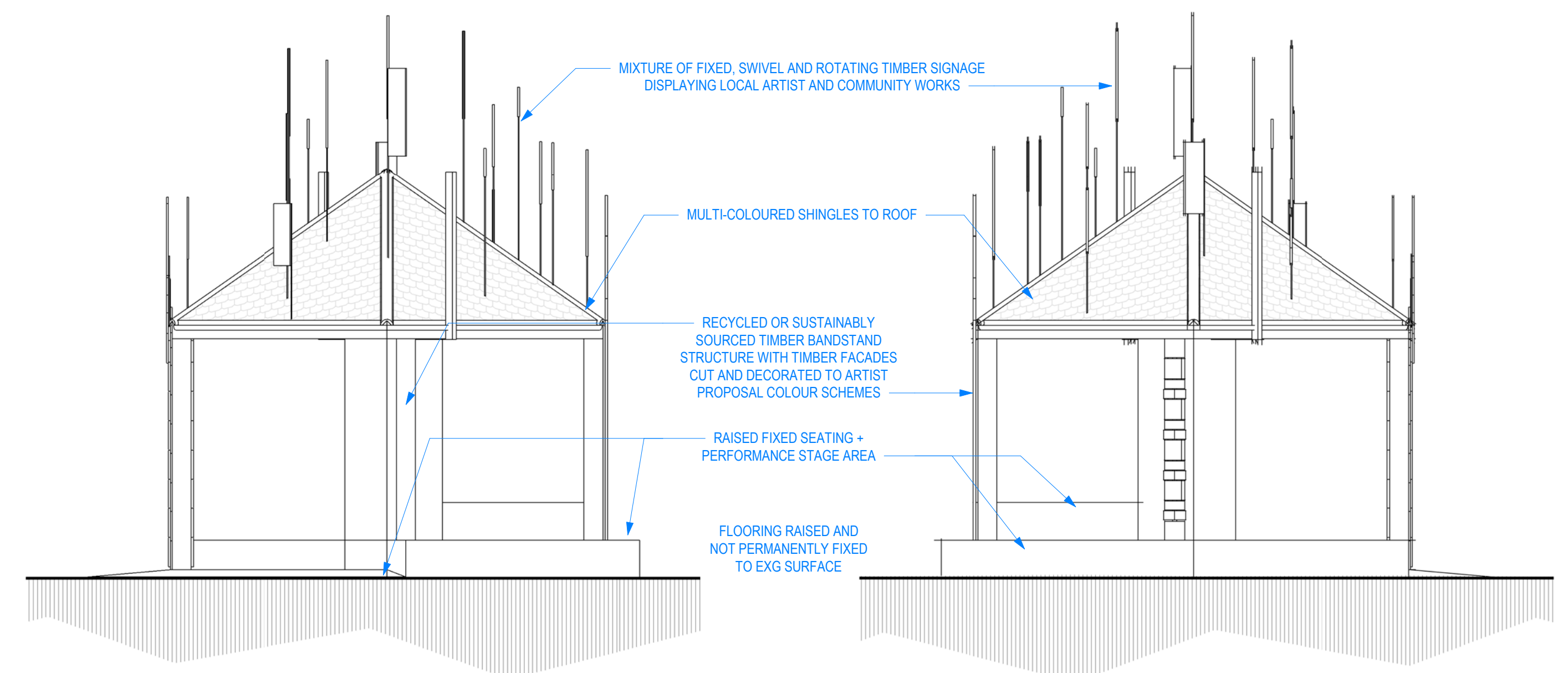
INDICATIVE 3D SKETCH PERSPECTIVE  
NTS



3D VIEW 1 ARTIST'S COLOUR SCHEME, FINISH + APPEARANCE

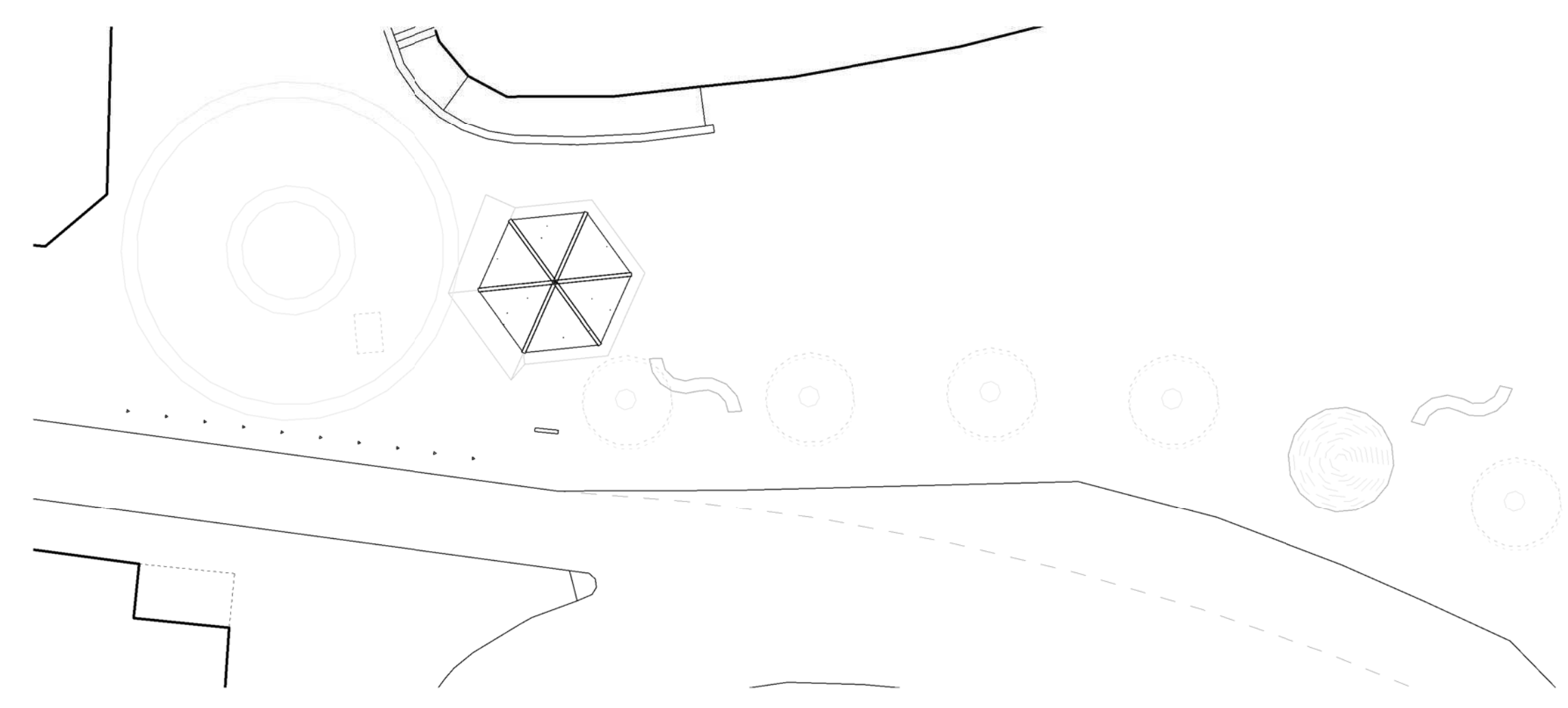


3D VIEW 2 ARTIST'S COLOUR SCHEME, FINISH + APPEARANCE



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  - DRAFT + PLANNING DRAWINGS ARE SHOWN FOR DESIGN INTENT ONLY AND REMAIN SUBJECT TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.
  - ANY DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.
  - PLANNING STATUS DRAWINGS ARE TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACHIEVING RELEVANT APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY ONLY.
  - DETAILED OR BUILDING CONTROL STATUS DRAWINGS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL FROM LABC AS A PART OF A FULL PLANS SUBMISSION. ONLY ONCE LABC APPROVAL IS TO HAND DO THEY BECOME APPROVED DRAWINGS, AND UNTIL THEN, REMAIN SUBJECT TO CHANGE, AND ANY REMAINING CONDITIONS AS A PART OF AN APPROVAL.
  - VARIATION FROM ANY APPROVED DRAWINGS MUST BE AGREED WITH THE BUILDING INSPECTOR ON SITE. NO RESPONSIBILITY IS HELD FOR ABORTIVE WORKS OR UNAPPROVED CHANGES.
  - DO NOT SCALE DRAWINGS PLOTTED AT ORIGINAL SIZE + SCALE AS STATED.
  - ALL PROJECT CRITICAL DIMENSIONS ARE TO BE CHECK-MEASURED ON SITE PRIOR TO COMMENCING WORK, AND/OR PLACING ORDERS FOR STOCK OR MANUFACTURE. ANY DISCREPANCIES TO DRAWINGS ARE TO BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY.
  - ANY POTENTIAL ASBESTOS OR ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS (ACMS) ENCOUNTERED / REMOVED / DISTURBED TO BE HANDLED BY APPROPRIATELY TRAINED & CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS IN ALL CASES.
  - ALL STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS (INC. BUT NOT LIMITED TO STEELWORK, STRUCTURAL TIMBERS, FOUNDATIONS, FIXINGS & DETAILS) SUPERSEDED BY APPOINTED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS INFORMATION PACKAGE AND/OR THIRD PARTY SPECIALIST SUPPLIERS.

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Rev.	Date	Description
PL	06/01/2021	SHRINE REPOSITIONED IN RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION WITH THIRD PARTIES INVOLVED.
	03/12/2021	INITIAL DRAFT FOR CLIENT + THIRD PARTY REVIEW.

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North Somerset  
BS22 9HQ  
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www.cuppaarchitects.co.uk

**PLANNING**

Project Number  
2110ASW

Drawing Title  
**PROPOSED ARTSHRINE  
- PLANS + ELEVATIONS**

Project Address  
**BIG LAMP CORNER  
HIGH STREET, WESTON-SUPER-MARE**

Client  
**CULTURE  
WESTON**

Scale  
As indicated

Original Size  
A1

Creation Date  
JAN 2022

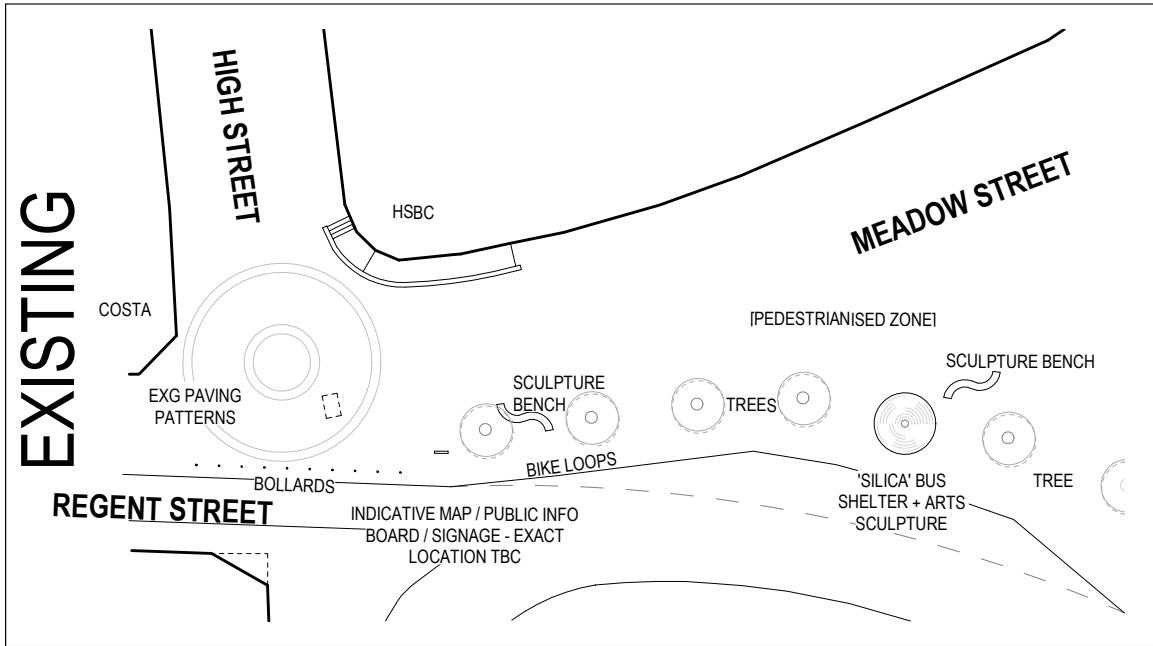
Drawing Number  
2110ASW\_PL\_0001

Revision

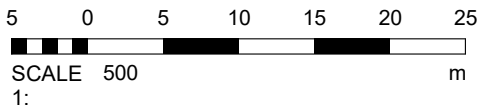
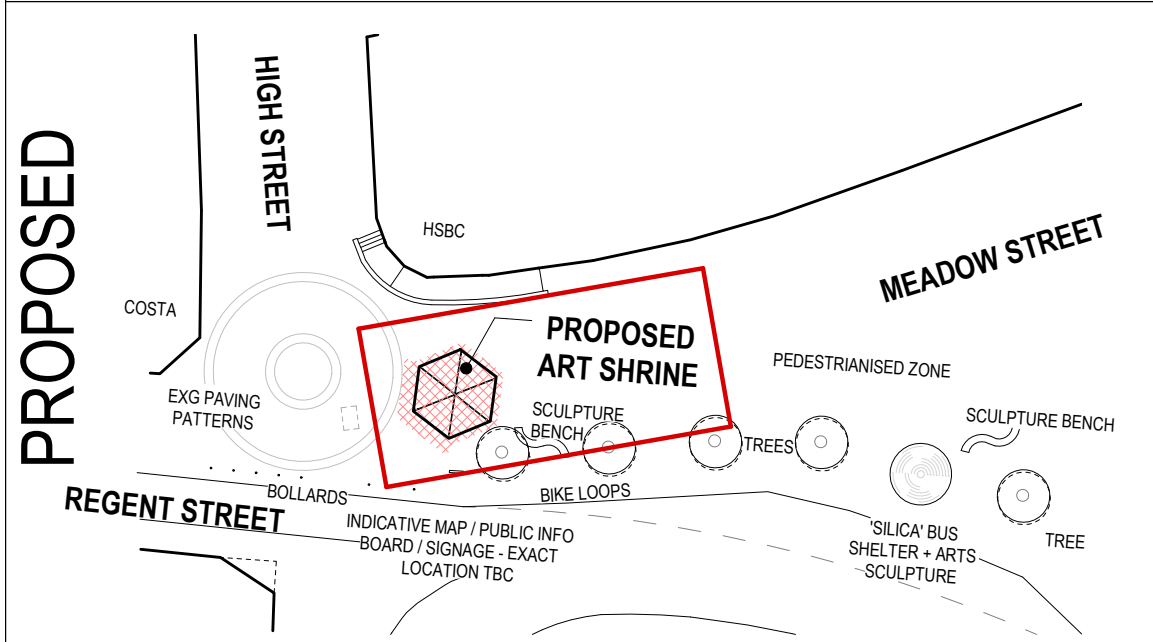


100  
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**EXISTING**



**PROPOSED**



**BLOCK PLANS**

REVISION: -

DATE: JAN 2022



The Studio  
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North Somerset  
BS22 9HQ

REPRODUCED FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP  
WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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LICENCE NUMBER 100059528

# ACCOMPANYING STATEMENTS

design / access / planning / heritage



## FULL PLANNING PERMISSION for Proposed Arts Super Shrine

Big Lamp Corner, High Street, Weston-super-Mare



# ACCOMPANYING STATEMENTS

DESIGN

ACCESS

PLANNING

HERITAGE

January 2022

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## PROPOSED PUBLIC ART SHRINE STRUCTURE INCLUDING SHELTERED SEATING + PERFORMANCE AREA at Big Lamp Corner, High Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1JE

---

### INTRODUCTION

This Design & Access Statement is to accompany the Planning Application within a Conservation Area to North Somerset Council for the erection of a public art shrine structure to include sheltered seating and performance area at Big Lamp Corner, High Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1JE.

The applicants, Culture Weston, have worked closely with internationally acclaimed lead artist Morag Myerscough, who along with a number of local artists and community organisations, have engaged with the public and residents of Weston over numerous workshops to create the proposed Public Arts Shrine – an external, open band stand-esque structure incorporating performance area and sheltered seating, to be located at the end of the High Street, in an area of pedestrianised open space outside number 30 High Street, known as ‘Big Lamp Corner’.

This document is best read in conjunction with and reference to the other drawings, forms and supporting documents uploaded as a part of the Full Planning Application.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Erection of a temporary (3 year) external, timber, open band stand-esque structure with incorporated performance area, sheltered seating and community arts display. The official title is still currently under public consultation, but the Art Shrine has been referred to as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Super Shrine and is set to act as a functional and striking piece of public art.

### EXISTING OVERVIEW, HERITAGE + CONTEXT

The wider ‘town centre’ district comprises a rich tapestry of architectural forms, styles and an eclectic urban grain.

***‘A layering of buildings from different periods with numerous fine individual historic buildings, including notable examples of interwar and 1950s architecture [with a] ‘bustling and active commercial district’.***

(Great Weston CAA & Management Plan, 2018:p6-7)

The proposed site is a currently vacant section of pedestrianised thoroughfare on the junction of Weston High Street, Meadow Street and Regent Street. The proposed siting falls within the Town Centre character area of the Great Weston Conservation Area, and is adjacent to a Grade II Listed building in 30 High Street, (Currently occupied and operating as HSBC Branch of Bank).

PTO

Continued...

The bank itself is a three-storey, Edwardian free style property c. early C20 with facades of limestone ashlar and a hipped slate roof. Bold projecting pilasters divide the facade into six bays, comprising canted corner entrance bay flanked by two bays fronting High Street to left and three bays fronting Meadow Street to right. Pilasters, which have Ionic capitals to upper floor level, interrupt bold moulded cornicing over all windows and to parapet. Four-centred arched doorway with carved spandrels flanked by one-light windows with moulded stone architraves; similar architraves to three-light stone-mullioned windows to ground floor of flanking bays; first floor lit by continuous run of paired small-framed lights set in pointed-arched surrounds with carved spandrels and quatrefoil frieze; small-paned lights to second floor, set in continuous run of stone cross-transomed and mullioned windows.

This bank is the only listed building in immediate proximity, and is otherwise surrounded by numerous different architectural styles of unconfirmed dates – a mixture of pastiche replica styles has been applied to buildings, including non-original art deco, and a large number of buildings and their facades are a hotch-potch of varying style, materiality and infill development over the years where commercial changes have each added a page to the storybook of the high-street's post-war history. The adopted Heritage Action Zone proposals are successfully undoing these architectural manifestations with a view to celebrate the history and return a notion of coherence to the architectural language of this area.

Regent street has an eclectic mixture of commercial premises with notable deviation from Victorian architectural style with 1950s curtain wall with a distinctive open canopy.

In a similar ilk to that of the proposed 'super shrine', Big Lamp Corner has an existing piece of public art from c.2005 in the form of the 'Silica'; an 80ft high, permanent, illuminated sculptural structure that incorporates a bus shelter and commercial hatched micro premises at floor level.

## PLANNING OVERVIEW

The site itself does not have any heritage listing, nor does it fall within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Green Belt, but it does sit within the Town Centre Character Area of the Great Weston Conservation Area, and is adjacent to a Grade II Listed building in 30 High Street, (Currently HSBC Bank).

## PROPOSED DESIGN

### Overview, Principles + Concepts

21<sup>st</sup> Century super Shrines was a project awarded funding by Historic England as a part of grants going to local art organisations to create and deliver community-led cultural activities on their high streets and within Heritage Action Zones.

Co-creating the project is internationally acclaimed artist Morag Myercough, whose work is characterized by an engaging boldness, creating specific, local responses to each distinct audience that will see and experience the work, using it to create community and build identity. Morag has been supported by a myriad of local artists, coordinated by local visual artist and social maker, Megan Clark-Bagnall.

PTO

Continued...

This project aims to build local pride and renewed respect for the high street by enabling experiences and physical landmarks to emerge, that instil awe and a sense of belonging, creating a town centre that is both a home, and a destination.

The principles of this scheme further look to counter some of the identified issues within the Character Appraisal, notably that the Town Centre area has 'Poor public realm experience in places' and 'and barren paving give a sterile appearance', all of which it argues 'harm and impinge upon local character' (2008:p11-18).

The proposal embraces this opportunity to restore and revitalise a valuable part of the high street – creating something of a beacon at the intersection of 3 well-used routeways through the town centre, and looking to temporarily add a public architectural installation that enhances the quality and feel of the street.

As a direct response to the principle aims of the conservation area appraisal, the brief and proposal address and positively embrace the following key overarching change management principles:

- Invest in public spaces and streets as fundamental parts of the town centre's character.
- Deliver a positive contribution to the local character.
- Enhance the character and quality of the street.
- Demonstrate a clear and informed understanding of the wider context and special character of the conservation area
- Enhance public space and the way the wider public realm is used.

## DESIGN

The proposal adopts the historically typical form of an open band stand – hexagonal in layout with a multi-faceted pitched roof over, supported on regular columns around the eaves. Beneath the shelter the footprint is split into approximately two halves – a raised, level platform for seating, and a lower level, sheltered 'stage' area that can be used for small performances, and is accessed via bespoke ramps to suit the gently sloping site.

The form although complimentary to the notions of Victoriana and associated tourist and entertainment structures of the traditional seaside band stand, the colourful patterns of the artists individually designed panels, facades and surface wraps create a striking and bold overall appearance opposed to focussing on architectural details or features.

The process was initiated through a digital consultation involving the lead artist Morag Myerscough, community artist mentor Megan Clark-Bagnall and local stakeholders including Councillors, the Civic Society, Weston BID, town centre management and arts + heritage specialists. This informed the roll out of subsequent public engagement workshops. We have endeavoured to be collaborative and transparent through all stages of the design development process.

The patterns and words proposed were developed specifically through a series of cross-generation workshops between residents of Weston and the lead artist, with supporting artist coordinators, culture makers and local artists engaging with the public and capturing the design processes and community workshops in local shop window displays.





Cross-generational word and pattern workshops with Morag Myerscough







## MATERIALS

The proposal is almost entirely created from recycled and/or sustainably sourced FSC approved timber, to be built off-site by a local artisan carpenter and master joiner, before being installed together on location. The facades, reveals and internal faces will be painted to a scheme created by lead artist Morag Myerscough. The roof will be clad in individually painted shingles to create the precise and coordinated colourful jigsaw of the combined vision of lead artist and local community. Signage upon swivelling ironmongery will display further colour, imagery and arts content selected as a part of the design process above roof level. The flooring, stage area and seating will be created from suitably non-slip timber decking. A small, centrally positioned boxing will house a secure cupboard to contain any required services for use in performance, and similar boxing will aim to conceal any structure and rainwater goods.



## ACCESS, PARKING + HIGHWAY SAFETY

The proposed works do not look to create additional parking provision and there are numerous dedicated parking facilities in the area to service the commercial and tourist zones of the town.

It is acknowledged that the town centre has an active pedestrian and cycling attendance, but the proposal has no impact the road, routeways or footpaths, and 8no. cycle loops will be retained immediately adjacent to the proposal. Where placement on the pedestrianised zone is proposed, it is proposed that a minimum pedestrian routeway is maintained throughout both construction / installations, and for the duration of the shrine's placement (currently estimated to be min. 3 years).

The structure itself comprises a small performance 'stage' area, to be accessed via ramps on two sides. The remaining perimeter of the structure has raised seating, but no low-level steps to ensure public trip hazards are not presented.

## FLOOD RISK

The site sits within a level 2 flood zone as identified by the Environment Agency. The structure is external, with no internal occupiable spaces or rooms, and will remain open to the elements for the duration of its placement as a piece of street furniture and public art.

## PROTECTED SPECIES

The proposal has no impact on any feature of value to bats, and the artificially lit, busy and extremely exposed site is not likely to be used by bats.

## SETTING OF LISTED BUILDINGS

The proposal does not arguably not negatively affect the setting of any listed buildings.

From an aesthetic perspective, the visual impact upon the high street will be one that offers 'conservation by contrast' opposed to a false or pastiche attempt to replicate or reflect one of the many architectural styles in the immediate location or a similarly faux-Victoriana that loses the ability to convey and reflect the contemporary concept and its development as a piece of street architecture. Any dedicated architectural style-set will take a back seat in favour of colour, finish and exclamation of the public-curated processes, the celebration of which honed and directed by the input of critically acclaimed and international renown lead artist Morag Myerscough.

In the balanced perspective of viewing both function, form and aesthetic of the proposal, the impact of such a vibrant, celebratory and colourful addition to a currently functional and vacant section of pedestrian throughfare is hugely positive, but we acknowledge there is a potential argument for a visual impact against the listed building of the bank. Having engaged with council heritage and conservation officers in advance of the planning application, we took proactive steps to address these concerns – namely by relocating the proposal slightly so not to entirely block to long views of the bank building from the main routeways from the seafront to High Street via Regent Street. This allows for the varying styles and colour palettes on offer to be layered – with long views down the high street including not only the colourful proposal, but then the contrasting ashlar of the bank, and against the contrasting dark finish of the recently renovated WHSmiths branch. This 'layering of buildings' a key attribute celebrated within the Council's own CAAMP documents and the Great Weston CAA & Management Plan (2018:p6).

PTO

Continued...

It is an integral part of the proposal's brief cultivation that the proposal actively enhances the conservation area within which it aims to be placed, and so consultation and engagement with the council's planning, and in particular, the Heritage Action Zone team, has been a valued exercise from the scheme's initial conception.

Although there is a small part of the bank's ground floor side elevation (mostly the wheelchair access ramp to the entrance) that will be blocked from certain views, we believe that this is heavily outweighed by the public benefits of a high-quality designed, hand-crafted performance and art display shrine that not only functions as a flexible event space, practical sheltered seating area, focal meeting point, and acts as a celebratory artistic spectacle of which Weston's residents can be proud.

## **IMPACT UPON NEIGHBOURS**

The proposed structure will be external, open and thus not have opening hours or dedicated usage times. Its use as a 'performance stage' will be limited to the usual council approved procedures and processes.

The proposed structure is open and positioned so not to create any areas concealed by existing CCTV, nor provide any areas of hidden concealment that might attract anti-social behaviour.

## **POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT**

The agents have an established and positive ongoing working relationship with North Somerset Council's Planning Department, regularly attend the Agents Forums and speak/meet with the departments officers and managers wherever possible to openly discuss relevant projects and schemes – as a result, no formal pre-application advice has been sought but direct contact with North Somerset Council's Heritage Action Zone team, Planning Department and Conservation Team has been engaged ahead of this planning application with comments and input taken into account and integrated into the scheme. We value the collaborative team approach and wish for such to be maintained throughout the deliberation process, ensuring free flow of communication and discussion wherever required.

Contact has been sought with Weston Civic Society who we understand usually like the opportunity to comment upon all works of this nature and within the Weston Conservation Zone, and in addition to the standard comments system enabled to the public by the usual planning determination process, we have also proactively contacted a notable list of relevant parties who may be interested in this proposal to remind them of their opportunity to comment and discuss any matters of concern with the wider design team. It is proposed that in addition to online viewing of content, the proposals are displayed in a public venue within the Town Centre (location TBC) as a form of further public consultation and engagement, to allow all parties to be updated with the progress of works to date, following what has been a positively lengthy consultation, and creatively engaging design and development process to date.

PTO

Continued...

## REFERENCED DOCUMENTS, STRATEGIES + POLICIES

The following documents have been used as reference material and to inform the basis for the design and approach developed and integrated as a part of the proposal: -

- Great Weston Conservation Area - Character Area Appraisal and Management Plan – Town Centre, 2018, North Somerset Council.
- Living in a Conservation Area – Information sheet, 2019, North Somerset Council.
- Understanding Historic Buildings, 2016, Heritage England
- Heritage Retrofit – Older Buildings and Sustainability, 2019, The Building Conservation Directory.
- Conservation Principles - Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment, 2008, Historic England.
- NSC Core Strategy Policy CS5: Landscape and the historic environment.
- Policy CS12: Achieving high quality design and placemaking.
- Sites and Policies Plan Part 1 Development Management Policies, 2015, North Somerset Council
- DM3: Conservation Areas.
- Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance, 2018, North Somerset Council

## CONCLUDING SUMMARY

We are delighted to enclose this application for your consideration and hopeful approval, for we believe the proposal to be one that enables an artistic and cultural display that adds energy, life, fun and enables activity to local residents and visitors alike, improves footfall to help our local businesses, and also actively and positively contributes to an area of wonderful character within Weston-super-Mare Town Centre & its High Street.

We, the agents on behalf of the applicants, warmly welcome engagement with the local authority and relevant third parties, and we look forward to discussing any matters as a part of the proactive discussions throughout the deliberation period.

Kind Regards,



**James Brown**, BA(hons) Arch, M.Arch, PGC, ARB, RIBA, Architect – Cuppa Architects  
**On behalf of Culture Weston**, Applicants.

# FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

FTAO Case Officer, North Somerset Council Planning Department.

Jan 2022

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## for Proposed Arts Super Shrine Big Lamp Corner, High Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1JE

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### Overview

The enclosed application is for the erection of a public art shrine (external, open band-stand type structure) to include sheltered seating and performance area at Big Lamp Corner, High Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1JE.

No part of the works involves accommodation, there is no extension of any existing property, nor does it not seek any place where people would reside beyond the enjoyment of a temporary external seat, or occasional external public performance.

### Flood Risk Assessment

1. The property is located in flood Zone 2 as defined by the Environment Agency flood map for planning.
2. There is no building proposed and no works to an existing building / any extension or alteration to any building fabric.
3. The proposed finished floor level will remain as existing, only increasing in areas to improve accessibility as required, and where undertaken will only be increased above the existing levels new ramping.
4. Flood defences protecting the site are not known or detailed extensively on currently available EA information.
5. Extra flood resistance and resilience measures will be adopted, with any new and proposed electrical sockets would be raised at least 450mm above ground floor level, and proposed materials to be used would be of a water and flood resilient material wherever possible.
6. Surface water runs into the existing surface water system on site and the new works will create no additional requirement to run into these systems.
7. In the event of a flood, the proposal would not be used, or in the event of an emerging flood incident, there are no internal spaces from which members of the public could be trapped, or prevented from reaching a place of safety.
8. There are no places of dwelling or similar within the application premises at ground floor level.

The applicant warmly welcomes any conditions that are required as a part of the application, and we look forward to discussing any matters as a part of the proactive discussions throughout the deliberation period.

Kind Regards,



**James Brown**, Architect + Director– Cuppa Architects. **On behalf of Culture Weston**, Applicants.

### Cuppa Architects Ltd

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Weston-super-Mare  
North Somerset, BS22 9HQ

EXTENSIONS | CONVERSIONS | ALTERATIONS | PLANNING DRAWINGS | BUILDING REGULATIONS

RIBA 

arb Architects  
Registration  
Board

registered  
LABC

fsb<sup>88</sup>  
MEMBER

# Great Weston Heritage Action Zone



Cara MacMahon &  
Lorna Clarke

Over five years (Sept 2017- Sept 2022), the Great Weston Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) aims to boost economic growth and keep Weston-super-Mare on the map as a great place to live and work in.

To date the work has delivered the:

- Adoption of Weston as a Conservation Area
- Adoption of shopfront design guide for North Somerset
- Publication of a book on Weston

The work includes shopfront enhancement scheme and community engagement, including

- Funding for Know your Place
- Co-ordination of Weston's Heritage Open Days
- Marketing training for retailers



# Great Weston Heritage Action Zone



Cara MacMahon &  
Lorna Clarke

## Retaining Weston's Stone Walls- Article 4 Direction

We have completed consultation on Stone Walls

The vast majority of responses were in support of an Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights to knock walls 1 metre or less down.

We are awaiting an Executive member decision.

During Feb / March for 6 weeks we will enter a phase of public engagement to inform of decision to adopt Article 4 directions and request representations.

Following this phase the aim would be to finalise adoption





# Great Weston HAZ



## 2021-22 highlights & achievements

- Completion of Walker & Ling shopfront through shopfront enhancement scheme
- Heritage Open Days festival with over 3000 visitors
- Publication of the Hans Price walk through Weston
- Marketing support for Retailers
- Funding for Know Your Place
- Four more high street shops gained planning permission for enhancement work
- Successful application for £1.1 million to fund Weston High Street Heritage Action Zone
- Negative point- reluctance of retailers to find funds to enhance their properties

# Great Weston HAZ

## Legacy work

### Exhibition in The Museum

To celebrate the HAZ and HSHAZ achievements, working with the Museum and Photographer, Tom Sparey, we are planning an exhibition in the Community gallery running from 21 May to 05 November

The formal private view is on the evening of 24 May

The exhibition will celebrate our work to date.

We plan to hold a variety of events in the museum during the months the exhibition is running.

We plan to tie this in to the wider See Monster events happening over the summer.





# Know Your Place

## Know Your Place

The project continues to go from strength to strength. Over 1,000 KYP map views each month and circa 400 users monthly with 200 new users accessing the map each month and 200 regular monthly users.

### Exhibition

The Know Your Place exhibition in the Museum will run from 15 March for two weeks.

Launch event is Tuesday 15 March at 10.30am



# Heritage Open Days 2022



Hero and Leander at Grove Park  
Sept 2021

Following successful Heritage Open Days Sept 2021 we have begun to plan for Sept 2022.

Dates are 9- 18 September 2022

Lorna Clarke is leading on this festival and we ask Weston Town Council to contact Lorna in relation to possible HODs events that could be planned by The Museum, Blakehay, Grove House and the parks.

We also hope to work with Culture Weston to co-ordinate Cultural events during the HODs festival

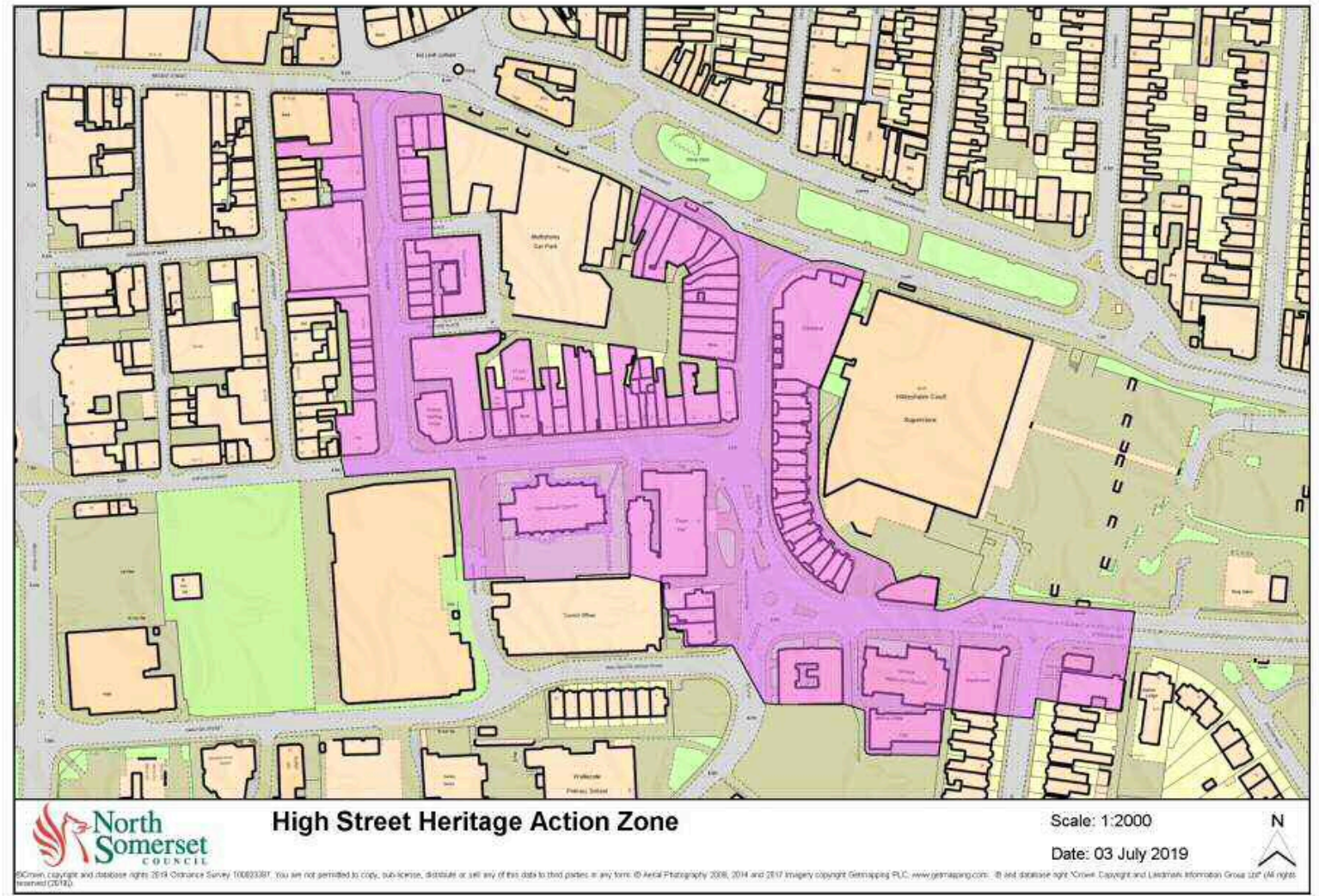
# High Street Heritage Action Zone

Commenced October 2020

Running to March 2024

£1.1 million investment from Historic England

Focus on shopfront enhancement & community engagement and a major Cultural programme





# Weston HSHAZ



## 2021-22 highlights & achievements

- Fork N Ale pub renovations to commence 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.
- Working up designs with owners of 4-8 and 14-16 Walliscote Road
- Outline designs for The Centre developed and option to start with Canopy being discussed with retailers. So far no real interest from retailers.
- Initial discussions with properties on Oxford Street.
- Designs and cost estimates for the old 'Kendall' building completed 16-28 High Street/ 42-44 Regent Street
- Designs developed for renovation of The Odeon Cinema. Current planning application requires more work before it is acceptable

# High Street Heritage Action Zone

## Community Engagement

### **Community engagement work**

Eight community led projects plus Heritage Construction skills training programme.

Projects include:

- Funding for Know Your Place
- A schools heritage appreciation project
- Heritage Open Days
- Volunteer skills training led by Culture Weston with VANS
- Training Guide to provide guided heritage walks
- Intergenerational reminisce
- Seminars for retailers
- Heritage talks/ lectures

# High Street Heritage Action Zone

## Seminars for retailers

A series of Seminars for retailers  
in the Fork n Ale pub 5.15pm- 7pm. Led by Fran Riseley

### **Seminar 1. Tuesday 01 Feb 2022**

20 things you can do for free (or almost) to increase sales and customer traffic in your shop.

### **Seminar 2. Tuesday 01 March 2022**

Telling your story effectively – ways to demonstrate the heritage and history of your business and what makes you special as an independent retailer.

### **Seminar 3. Tuesday 05 April 2022**

Maximizing the opportunities that local events in Weston bring. We will go through all the key events planned for summer 2022 in Weston and look at ideas for each to help you capitalize on the visitors they bring into the town.



## **13. Culture Weston and Theatre Orchard Projects Update - Tom Newman, Programme Manager**

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Theatre Orchard is an arts development organisation for North Somerset, with a particular focus on access, engagement, and producing high quality cultural events that make the region a great place to live, work and visit.

Culture Weston is a programme hosted by Theatre Orchard, with a focus on building an inclusive creative and cultural ecology and infrastructure. Instigating creative training pathways, growing artist employment opportunities, and enabling ambitious creative collaborations that support Weston's growth as a healthy, dynamic and prospering town where everyone's input is valued.

### **1. AUTUMN PROGRAMME**

#### **WESTON ARTS + HEALTH WEEK 2021**

Free festival of outdoor arts, digital events and creative and participatory engagement projects, targeting Weston's more vulnerable and less engaged communities. The week saw 45 live and digital events, including activity at Weston Hospital and a collaboration with UCW and Studio Wayne McGregor. Headline installation 'In Memoriam' by Luke Jerram attracted 5000+ audiences. BBC and ITV coverage.

This was a co-production between Culture Weston and University Hospital Bristol & Weston's NHS Foundation Trust Arts and Culture Programme.

#### **Dance Double Header**

Edifice Dance Theatre – Salome, Ashton Court, Long Ashton - Saturday 30 Oct.  
Joshua Nash - V for Vendetta, The Winter Gardens – Wednesday 3 Nov.

#### **Luke Jerram's LULLABY – November 27/28**

A bicycle delivered light and sound experience created by Luke Jerram, delivered in two different Weston communities – Worle and Central Ward. 30 riders were recruited from the community for each ride. Reached 2,000+ people on the route.

#### **Rhyme Against the Tide poetry slam - 25 November**

Second sell out Rhyme Against the Tide event, 60+ audiences. Seed funded by Culture Weston as part of initiating more activity in Central Ward.

#### **Speakeasy - 1 December**

Online launch of award-winning (Bridport International Poetry Prize 2018) poet John Freeman's latest collection 'Plato's Peach', together with contributions from two invited guest poets and a pre-programmed open mic. Speakeasy Poetry evenings began IRL pre-pandemic and have converted very successfully into digital bi-monthly events since the initial lockdown, always featuring a published poet alongside community voices.

### **2. FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

#### **GLOW - 17-19 February 2022**

GLOW in Grove Park will see the natural landscape transformed on the journey from winter into spring. Discover wondrous light installations, interactive activities and stunning spectacles in a magical, sensory experience for all the family.

Featuring Arcadia's famous Flaming Lampposts, Thingumajig Theatre's Ghost Caribou giant illuminated puppet, Laser Sky, Disco Ball Bandstand, Tree of Life lit up by pedal power,

Swing Tree, the UK's largest bug hotel with willow insects installation, community lantern trail, poetry soundscape projections, choral music, unexpected theatrical encounters including Weston's 'From the Mud' and more. Core funded by Weston Town Council and Arts Council England, plus additional support from NSC.

### **Ramshacklicious - Club Supreme - February 2022**

Theatre Orchard has partnered with Ramshacklicious to develop Club Supreme, a co-created, hybrid (live & online), project. Combining film/animation, projection, live streaming, ambisonic sound design, live music, puppetry, live performance and participatory performance. Theatre Orchard showcased one part of this project, 'Glory Box', a small, outdoor peep box performance, to audiences at Whirligig 2021 (2 performances).

We are now working with Ramshacklicious to bring their shop based installation performance residency with co-created community performance elements to a unit in the Sovereign Centre during February 2021. This will be a 6 day residency with performances over weekend of 19/20 Feb.

**New Art Club - Cupid's Revenge** - 20 May 2022 (dance), plus workshop with Weston College. Venue - Winter Gardens.

### **3. 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY SUPER SHRINES**

*21st Century super Shrines* is a 3 year programme to create a series of innovative contemporary 'shrines' which will appear on the high street. These shrines may be permanent installations or live arts experiences that encapsulate the vitality and values of the local community. Creatively steering the project is lead artist Megan Clark-Bagnall in partnership with acclaimed guest artists, emerging artists and the local community. The project is managed by Culture Weston as part of the four-year-long High Streets Heritage Action Zones' Cultural Programme, led by Historic England, in partnership with Arts Council England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Kicking off the project is a new contemporary bandstand/ artwork for the high street created by internationally renowned Morag Myerscough informed by engagement with communities. *This is now in planning - please see attached binder.* Installation will take place in May pending planning approval, and a programme will be developed with the community and with emerging partners such as St George's Hall.

#### **Community engagement around the Shrine**

New Culture Weston You Tube Series 'Chip Chat', hosted by Megan Clark-Bagnall, Lead Artist on the 21st Century super Shrines project in Weston-Super-Mare and self appointed Chip Advisor... this chat show brings National artists working on the the 21st Century super Shrines project to a chippy in Weston, to speak with our talented local artists over a bag of chips about all things art, community and chips. It has been designed as a living archive to document the unfolding of topics and themes uncovered in our conversations with communities and creatives during our 3 year project 21st Century super Shrines.

Watch Chip Chat episode 1 here: <https://cultureweston.org.uk/listings/launch-of-chip-chat/>

Coinciding with the launch of Chip Chat was the launch of a shop window display, created by community artists Kelly Lewis and Bev Star (supported by Megan Clark-Bagnall) that further embeds the project with ongoing local engagement activity. The display was created through community workshop delivered IRL and digitally (which enabled Kelly, who is disabled, to fully participate).

### **4. ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME – REGULAR OFFER**



**Chapter One** – Theatre Orchard’s popular creative writing group continues online sessions, every other Tuesday from 3-5pm. Led by The Write Box (Bob Walton - Creative Writing Tutor at Cardiff University, and Weston based practitioner Sue Hill). Their work has been showcased through Bristol Old Vic and Bath Spa Uni associated projects.

**Open Door** – Theatre Orchard’s open access theatre group for adults runs every Thursday (currently online) from 12-2pm. All welcome and no experience necessary.

**Theatre Forum** – 3 year programme funded by Active Communities enabling communities to explore social issues that affect them through creative means. Open to anyone interested in creating community theatre performances for and about Weston. The focus for this year is HOME and the ambition is to engage a wide, cross section of people in different capacities. Currently linking with Baytree School, Curo Housing Association, Alliance Homes and Theatre Orchard’s core engagement groups. A phase one digital performance is scheduled for 15 Feb, from 6-8pm. All welcome. More info [here](#).

**Theatre Orchard Youth** – Theatre Orchard Youth returns with a 2022 programme packed with enjoyable and escapist creative experiences for all young people in North Somerset. Back IRL every Thursday from February at Weston College and Blakehay Theatre (tbc).

## **CULTURE WESTON**

### **OUTCOME 1: Outstanding, accessible arts and cultural experiences for everyone**

- SEE MONSTER - We are developing engagement programme that builds on the strengths of our engagement practise (dance/ environmental/ youth voice) and that collaborates with partners such as North Somerset Music Service and Into University. We are also contributing to wider NSC thinking around how the town can best maximise this opportunity.
- With Theatre Orchard secured £48,500 from ACE Project Grants. This is supporting a 7-month programme of hyper-local creative activity and artistic collaboration. The 3 projects are as follows:
  - Grow Feral led by Sam Francis, worked with Osprey Outdoors & Rectors Way allotments to consider how we want to live, co-exist, and connect through food and all things green. FM/TN are continuing to work with Sam Francis to explore how Grow Feral might be extended, developing thematic connections with See Monster and sustainability - potential project development around connecting wayfinding with planting, towards an artistically curated planted wayfinding route from the station to Tropicana and into town.
  - Future Radicals led by Ramona Bigwood and Carson Parker Fairley, worked with a group of young people on Bournville to reimagine and plan how to reinvigorate their community spaces. TN continuing to work with Community Producer, Sophie Shepherd, to explore potential project development around further youth-led creative interventions in the public realm in South Ward.
  - Weston Words led by Shagufta K Iqbal is a poetry and spoken word participatory project, engaging people in the Central Ward to explore, celebrate and promote creative writing and the sharing of stories as radical acts. TN continuing to work with Community Producer, Sophie Shepherd and Shagufta to explore how poetry developed through the activity could manifest/be represented in the public realm in the town centre.
- Esmee Fairbairn Weston Presents. Funding is supporting establishment of 2 creative community hubs in South Ward and Central. Hubs will offer a regular programme of drop-in creative activities, tasters, programmed performance and a wide array of

classes for young people and adults to develop both creative and practical skills. The first phase included the launch of a new Emerging Producers programme – 2 Weston based young creatives – Jess and Ben – started with us in August and Community Producer Sophie Shepherd. Activity will be shaped by local people through the formation of a People’s Panel. Initial activity will focus around developing a People’s Programme for the new Super Shrines Bandstand.

## **OUTCOME 2: Culture is valued and at the heart of WsM’s future**

- Collaborating with Visual Arts South West and Spike Island on their visual arts sector development programme for the West of England. From a CW perspective we will be receiving £30k over 3 years to deliver the following:
  - Developing a roadmap with local stakeholders for a more sustainable visual arts offer
  - Bursary programme for early-career artists who face barriers to develop new artist-led activity, increase access and engagement for those struggling to engage with the sector.
  - Artists will also benefit from support to develop and sustain creative careers in Weston through improved networking, CPD, business incubation and regional commissioning opportunities - which will be coordinated by VASW and Spike.

## **OUTCOME 3: Nurture a thriving arts, culture and heritage sector**

- Artist support – weekly 1-2-1 advice sessions with artists/creatives. Actively supporting a number of artists on funding and work development.
- Growing talent development pathways – working with Weston College to increase opportunities for work experience, industry placements and apprenticeships with arts and cultural organisations. 4 new placements Alfie, Jay, Anna and Tom have started working with us every Thursday through to July. Their first project is mapping, documenting and promoting the new Weston Wallz mural trail, alongside existing street art in Weston.
- Supporting creative networks – Creative Meet-up, a series of monthly online, drop in conversations for the local artistic and creative community. These will resume for 2022, co-ordinated by Emerging Producer, Jess Hicks.
- Creative Enterprise Courses –monthly sessions to support creatives and freelance practitioners, at any career stage, helping them gain the skills needed to turn their passions into paid work.

**Recommendation:** Members are asked to note the report, and add their support to the planning application for 21st Century super Shrines.