

8.0 Appendices

Appendix A Consultation board feedback

- A.1 Participant Information
- A.2 Participant Instruction
- A.3 Foregate Feedback (Proposals 01-15)
- A.4 Foregate Feedback (Proposals 16-30)
- A.5 Sandbed Street Feedback (Proposals 31-40)
- A.6 John Finnie Street Feedback (Proposals 41-45)
- A.7 Shopping Area Extension Feedback (Proposals 41-45)
- A.8 Street Furniture Feedback

Appendix B Online Survey Results

- B.1 Participant Information
- B.2 Comments

Appendix C Email Comments and Handouts

- C.1 Email Comments
- C.2 Received Handouts
- C.3 Kilmarnock & District History Group Comments

Appendix D Work Packages

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A.1 - Participant Information

Participant data:

Total Number of Participants:

155

Postcode:

KA1: 62

KA2: 3

KA3: 59

KA4 or Greater: 19

(some participants did not disclose their post codes)

Participant Gender:

Female - 55.50%

Male - 42.18%

Prefer not to say - 2.22%

Participant Age:

Answer Choices

Responses

Ages 5 - 11

Ages 12 - 15

Ages 16 - 24

Ages 25 - 44 20.43%

Ages 45 - 54 22.70%

Ages 55 - 64 18.16%

Age 65+ 38.59%

Total responses: 44

Participant with disability:

yes 20.43%

no 77.18%

Prefer not to answer 2.27%

Total responses: 44

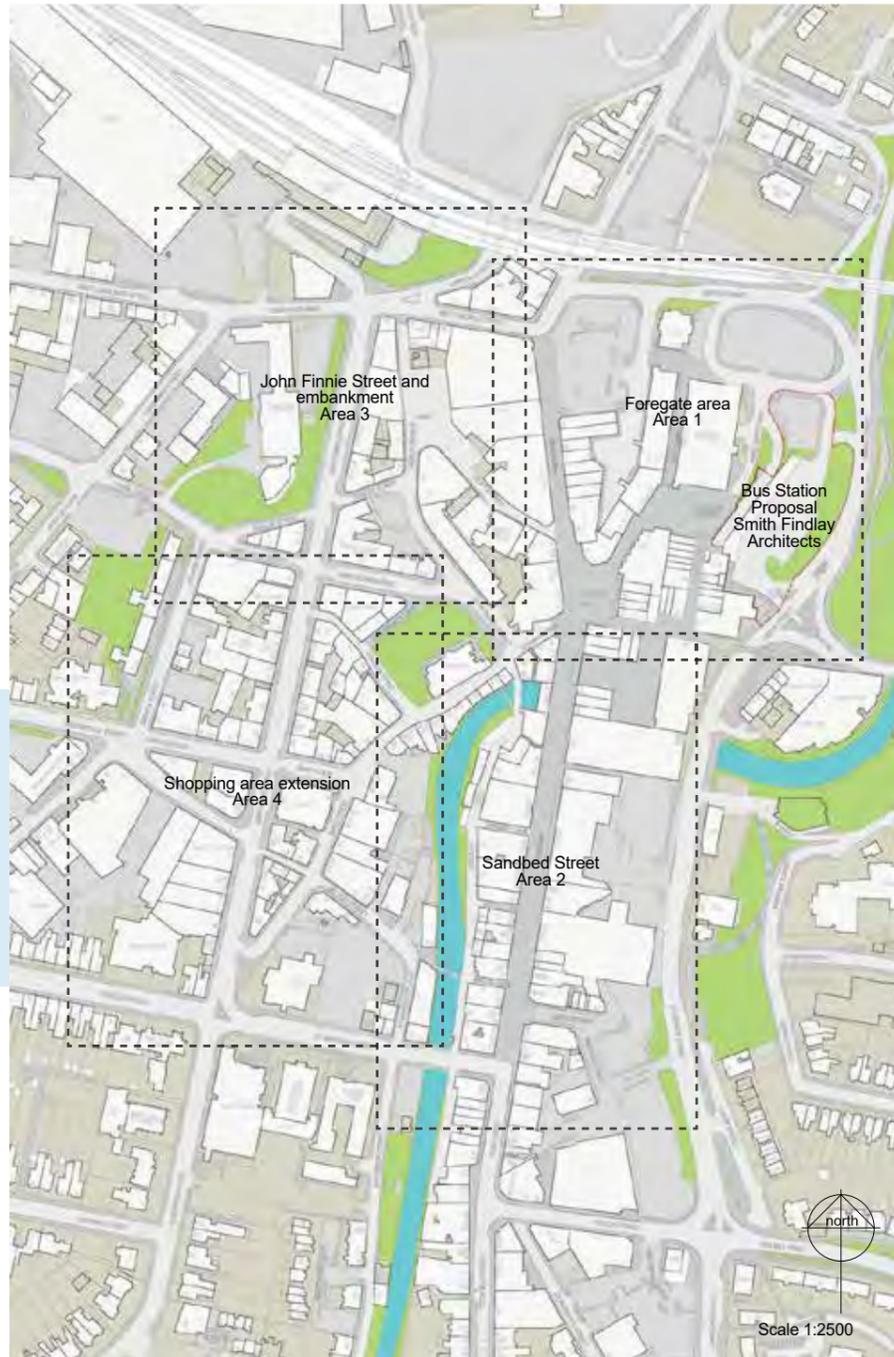
Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A.2 - Participant Instruction

KILMARNOCK Overview



Focus Areas



TGP Landscape Architects have been appointed by East Ayrshire Council to investigate ways in which Kilmarnock Town Centre may be improved and the shopping zone extended towards John Finnie Street.

This exhibition shows where improvements could be made to areas and features, that would make the town centre more attractive to visitors and residents alike, and provide a better destination and environment for shopping or visiting.

We are seeking YOUR input into which of these possible improvements could be developed and where YOUR priorities lie to make the town centre more attractive.

We Need Your Feedback

The adjacent map shows four focus areas within Kilmarnock town centre that have been chosen for development.

As a valued member of this community we would like your feedback on our proposals.

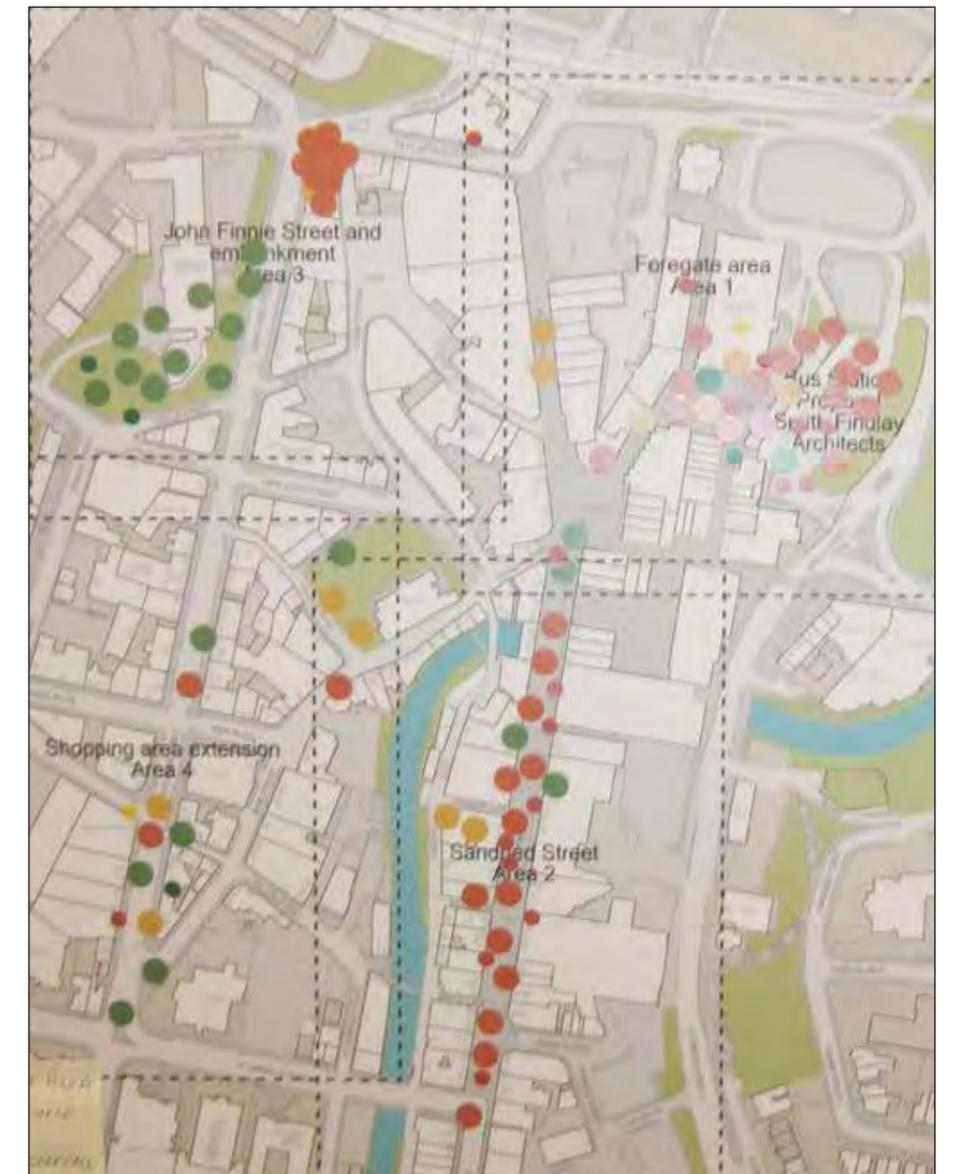
Please use the space provided on boards 1 to 7 and place your sticky dots beside the proposals that you think are of relevance to you and in relation to your priorities:

- High Priority
- Mid Priority
- Low Priority

TGP Landscape Architects and the Council have held a series of consultation events to capture the views of interest groups, traders and the public, including visiting shoppers. These events proved very successful and as can be seen in this Section, centred around a proposal board display, upon which the attendees were asked to illustrate their thoughts and priorities.

The events were very well attended and we received considerable feedback both interesting and positive. Some of the views were that our proposals need tempered with real world issues such as timing and funding. Some of the feedback suggested that the public would be receptive to more extreme solutions, with more extensive demolitions in favour of the creation of larger open spaces.

The most prominent feedback centred on anti-social behaviour being perceived as the main root problem that prevents a good user environment and so turning away prospective new shoppers to the retail areas.



Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A.3 - Foregate Feedback (Proposals 01-15)

KILMARNOCK Area 1

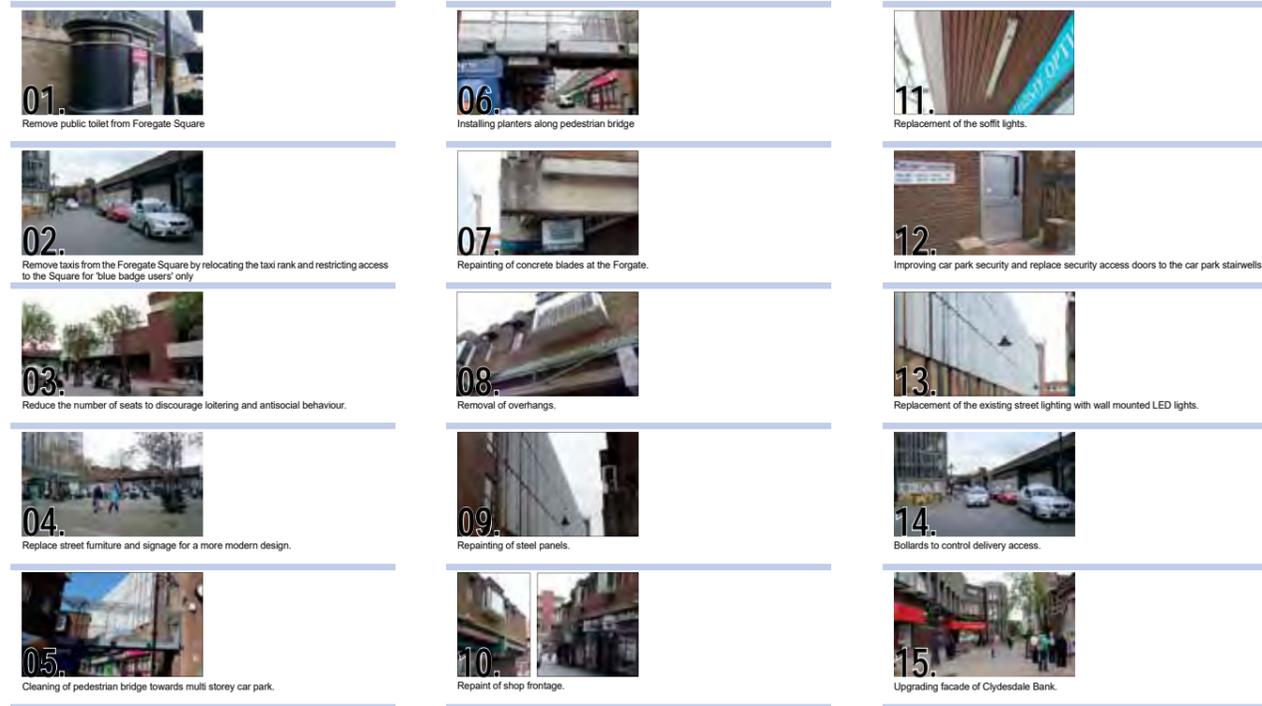


Foregate Area Proposals (01-15)



- High Priority
- Mid Priority
- Low Priority

Comments:



Priority Results

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

01. Remove public toilet from Foregate Square
● 4 ● 1 ● 3

02. Remove taxis from the Foregate Square by relocating the taxi rank and restricting access to the Square for 'blue badge users' only
● 7 ● 6 ● 2

03. Reduce the number of seats to discourage loitering and antisocial behaviour.
● 13 ● 3 ● 2

04. Replace street furniture and signage for a more modern design.
● 0 ● 2 ● 3

05. Cleaning of pedestrian bridge towards multi storey car park.
● 2 ● 4 ● 1

06. Installing planters along pedestrian bridge
● 0 ● 2 ● 3

07. Repainting of concrete blades at the Foregate.
● 6 ● 0 ● 1

08. Removal of overhangs.
● 3 ● 0 ● 1

09. Repainting of steel panels.
● 0 ● 1 ● 1

10. Repaint of shop frontage.
● 2 ● 0 ● 0

11. Replacement of the soffit lights.
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

12. Improving car park security and replace security access doors to the car park stairwells.
● 7 ● 3 ● 1

13. Replacement of the existing street lighting with wall mounted LED lights.
● 0 ● 3 ● 0

14. Bollards to control delivery access.
● 2 ● 3 ● 0

15. Upgrading facade of Clydesdale Bank.
● 3 ● 1 ● 3

In summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

03
- Reduce the number of seats to discourage loitering and anti-social behaviour

02
- Remove taxis from the Foregate Square by relocating the taxi rank and restricting access to the Square for 'blue badge users' only

12
- 12. Improving car park security and replace security access doors to the car park stairwells.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

01. Remove public toilet from Foregate Square
● 0 ● 0 ● 3

02. Remove taxis from the Foregate Square by relocating the taxi rank and restricting access to the Square for 'blue badge users' only
● 0 ● 1 ● 2

03. Reduce the number of seats to discourage loitering and antisocial behaviour.
● 6 ● 1 ● 0

04. Replace street furniture and signage for a more modern design.
● 1 ● 0 ● 0

05. Cleaning of pedestrian bridge towards multi storey car park
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

06. Installing planters along pedestrian bridge
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

07. Repainting of concrete blades at the Foregate.
● 0 ● 4 ● 0

08. Removal of overhangs.
● 0 ● 3 ● 0

09. Repainting of steel panels.
● 1 ● 0 ● 0

10. Repaint of shop frontage.
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

11. Replacement of the soffit lights.

● 0 ● 1 ● 0

12. Improving car park security and replace security access doors to the car park stairwells.

● 0 ● 4 ● 4

13. Replacement of the existing street lighting with wall mounted LED lights.

● 0 ● 1 ● 0

14. Bollards to control delivery access.

● 0 ● 0 ● 0

15. Upgrading facade of Clydesdale Bank.

● 0 ● 0 ● 3

In summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

03

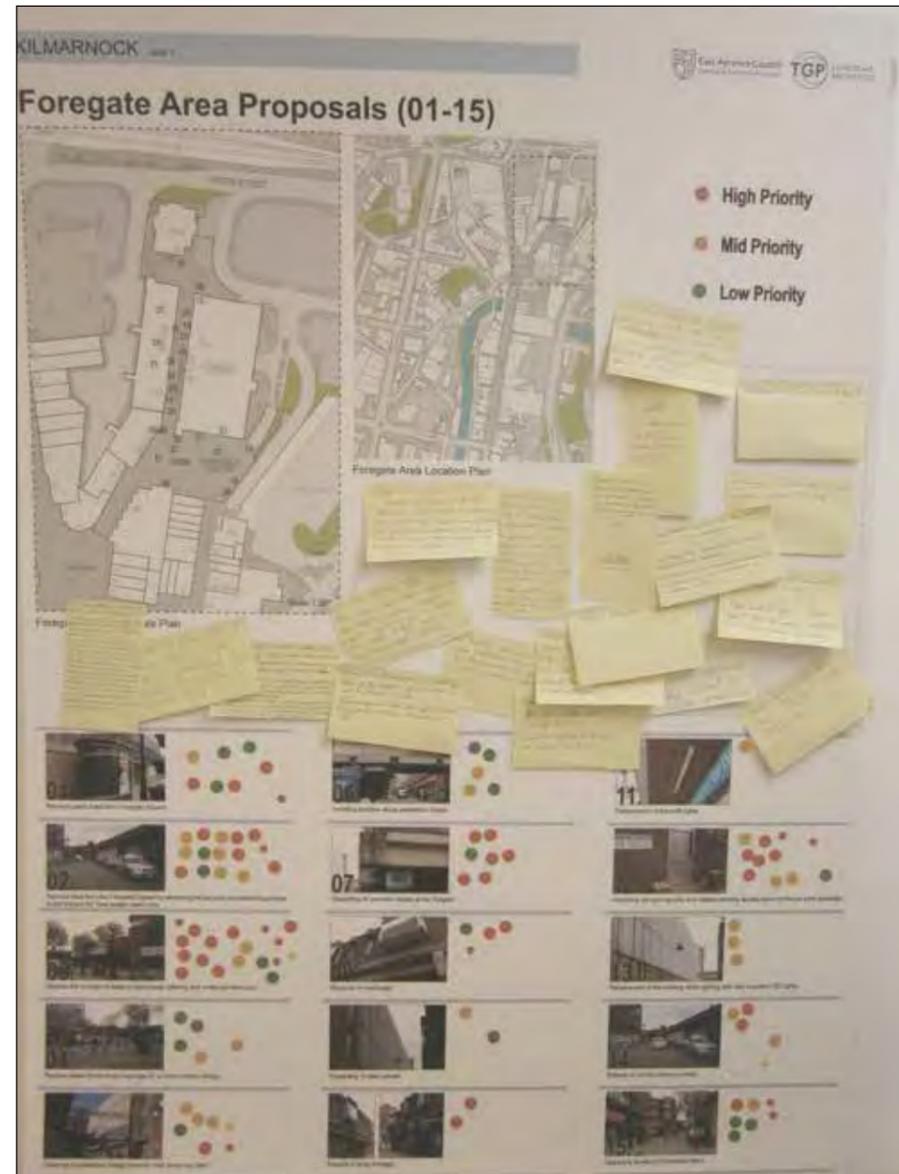
- Reduce the number of seats to discourage loitering and antisocial behaviour

07

- Repainting of concrete blades at the Foregate

08

- Removal of overhangs.



Comments Summary

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

Street Furniture:

- Leave seats but increase police presence.
- Space would benefit from seating, address anti social behaviour in another way.
- If seats are removed where will people have lunch, sit and relax?
- Removal of seats will not solve antisocial behaviour issues.
- Don't remove seating when people need them.

Taxi Rank Location:

- Restrict taxi use of Foregate Square for drop off only (no parking) Keep taxi ranks beside both rail and bus station
- Demolish Burns Mall, put town centre back to way it was. Move bus station back to original position.
- Access from bus and rail stations to taxis important. Proposals need more extreme solutions and substance.

Safety:

- Police don't manage the area, laws are ignored around the station.
- Open up the area across from the multi-storey car park. e.g. green space as opposed to the current buildings (21, 25 & 28) Relocate shops.
- Perceived security access to bus station.
- No provision for people with addictions, so they are demonised.

Public Toilet:

- Public toilet access required.
- Can we have a high tech loo that identifies people entering using post code card. Or a staffed toilet.

Proposals are too aesthetic:

- Proposals are all aesthetic. Problems are more complex.
- Cosmetic proposals; the dated 70's relic needs demolished. Relocate shops to other empty units in Kilmarnock.
- Too much focus on Furniture, Taxi rank needs to be central, feeling of safety when getting transport late at night. Removal of seats and toilet will not stop antisocial behaviour. There needs to be something worth coming for, paint and flowers not enough. Get some bigger and bolder ideas.

Town Plan

- Bring back Duke Street or something akin to its elegance, giving clear view up to the palace theatre. That arrangement was safer, no need to go into an underpass, especially at night.
- Flatten Foregate and rebuild.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

- Total length of Foregate from top of car park to square needs drastic action
- Agreement with above comment

Maintenance

- I think that this project is more of a 'tidy up' rather than regeneration. Furniture and painting will not do what is required.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

Town Plan:

- No defined route from bus station towards Green Street. Tie in with Kilmarnock College.
- Burns Mall centre to have major refurbishment. Both internal and external not appealing. Silverburn 20 mins up the road, with free parking and modern centre.
- Multi-storey parking is great for staff but not an attractive building.



Image: Consultation event Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

This page has been intentionally left blank

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A. 4 - Foregate Feedback (Proposals 16-30)

KILMARNOCK Area 1

Foregate Area Proposals (16-30)

- High Priority
- Mid Priority
- Low Priority

Comments:

 16. Upgrading raised planters of Clydesdale Bank.	 22. Installation of central red granite strip within the Foregate.	
 17. Improve the layout of the public space in The Foregate and the Foregate Square	 23. Restoration of vane feature on the car park facade, incorporating artwork panels.	 28. Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre along Foregate Street to create a pedestrian priority open space
 18. Rearrange bollards and traffic control infrastructure to restrict the impact of vehicles upon The Foregate	 24. Installation of fixings and supply circuitry for seasonal feature lighting	 29. Shop front project to improve continuity in shop front design and unify the frontage design.
 19. Update the signage for the Bus Station and Burns Mall	 25. Use vacant shop fronts for displays or artwork to improve the streetscape	 30. Implement green wall treatment to the multi-storey SW car park stairwell and the northern elevation of the Burns Mall
 20. Lighting proposal eg. LED netting lighting. (example: Ashton Lane, Glasgow)	 26. Improve access to the Bus Station through Foregate Square	
 21. Upgrading upper stories.	 27. Relocation of the Shona Kinloch sculpture into a more central and prominent location.	

Priority Results

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

- 16. Upgrading raised planters of Clydesdale Bank. ● 2 ● 1 ● 3
- 17. Improve the layout of the public space in The Foregate and the Foregate Square ● 14 ● 3 ● 1
- 18. Rearrange bollards and traffic control infrastructure to restrict the impact of vehicles upon The Foregate ● 0 ● 1 ● 2
- 19. Update the signage for the Bus Station and Burns Mall ● 0 ● 0 ● 2
- 20. Lighting proposal eg. LED net lighting. (example: Ashton Lane, Glasgow) ● 0 ● 6 ● 5
- 21. Upgrading upper stories. ● 2 ● 0 ● 3
- 22. Installation of central red granite strip within the Foregate. ● 0 ● 0 ● 2
- 23. Restoration of vane feature on the car park facade, incorporating artwork panels. ● 1 ● 1 ● 5
- 24. Installation of fixings and supply circuitry for seasonal feature lighting ● 0 ● 1 ● 1
- 25. Use vacant shop fronts for displays or artwork to improve the streetscape ● 5 ● 2 ● 2

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

- 26. Improve access to the Bus Station through Foregate Square ● 11 ● 2 ● 2
- 27. Relocation of the Shona Kinloch sculpture into a more central and prominent location. ● 0 ● 0 ● 6
- 28. Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre along Foregate Street to create a pedestrian priority open space ● 29 ● 4 ● 2
- 29. Shop front project to improve continuity in shop front design and unify the frontage design. ● 1 ● 5 ● 2
- 30. Implement green wall treatment to the multi-storey SW car park stairwell and the northern elevation of the Burns Mall ● 0 ● 3 ● 3

In summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

- 28 - Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre along Foregate Street to create a pedestrian priority open space
- 17 - Improve the layout of the public space in The Foregate and the Foregate Square
- 26 - Improve access to the Bus Station through Foregate Square

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

- 16. Upgrading raised planters of Clydesdale Bank. ● 0 ● 0 ● 0
- 17. Improve the layout of the public space in The Foregate and the Foregate Square ● 1 ● 0 ● 1
- 18. Rearrange bollards and traffic control infrastructure to restrict the impact of vehicles upon The Foregate ● 0 ● 0 ● 0
- 19. Update the signage for the Bus Station and Burns Mall ● 0 ● 0 ● 0
- 20. Lighting proposal eg. LED net lighting. (example: Ashton Lane, Glasgow) ● 0 ● 0 ● 3
- 21. Upgrading upper stories. ● 0 ● 0 ● 2
- 22. Installation of central red granite strip within the Foregate. ● 0 ● 0 ● 0
- 23. Restoration of vane feature on the car park facade, incorporating artwork panels. ● 0 ● 0 ● 0
- 24. Installation of fixings and supply circuitry for seasonal feature lighting ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

25. Use vacant shop fronts for displays or artwork to improve the streetscape

● 2 ● 1 ● 3

26. Improve access to the Bus Station through Foregate Square

● 0 ● 2 ● 2

27. Relocation of the Shona Kinloch sculpture into a more central and prominent location.

● 0 ● 0 ● 1

28. Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre along Foregate Street to create a pedestrian priority open space

● 11 ● 1 ● 2

29. Shop front project to improve continuity in shop front design and unify the frontage design.

● 2 ● 0 ● 0

30. Implement green wall treatment to the multi-storey SW car park stairwell and the northern elevation of the Burns Mall

● 0 ● 0 ● 3

In summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

28

- Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre along Foregate Street to create a pedestrian priority open space from the Bus Station through Foregate Square

25

- Use vacant shop fronts for displays or artwork to improve the streetscape

26

- Improve access to the Bus Station through Foregate Square



Comments Summary

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

Street Furniture and Lighting:

- What is pedestrian priority open space? Vacant shop front art should be more specific to Kilmarnock. What is the point of pretty lighting in a town centre without shops? Is it green friendly/ costs? Indication that previous furniture installations have been bad, think about it better, get it right first time.

Safety:

- Will this stop the police cars driving down the upper Foregate?
- When the continental market is on there is very little evidence of

people with dependency issues. If areas are made attractive and there is high footfall of a broad spectrum problem solved.

- More security presence to move on unwanted people, police presence.

Proposals are too aesthetic:

- All cosmetic, result: baseline problems remain.

General Comments

- What is the identified purpose for the pedestrian priority open space that would be created by demolishing the Foregate centre?
- Improve the layout of public space in Foregate square - to what purpose?
- Open up the Burns Mall at night; for access to town centre from London Road.
- What is pedestrian priority open space and what does it look like? have more pop up shops using local people, projects etc. - i.e. farmers shop.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders.

[15.11.17]

General Comments:

- Will Foregate businesses move to another town if demolished?
- What will happen to businesses in the Foregate if demolished?
- The Foregate has become an eyesore in recent years. Needs massive upgrading or demolition.

Maintenance:

- Can the bank not afford improvements?



Image: Consultation event Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

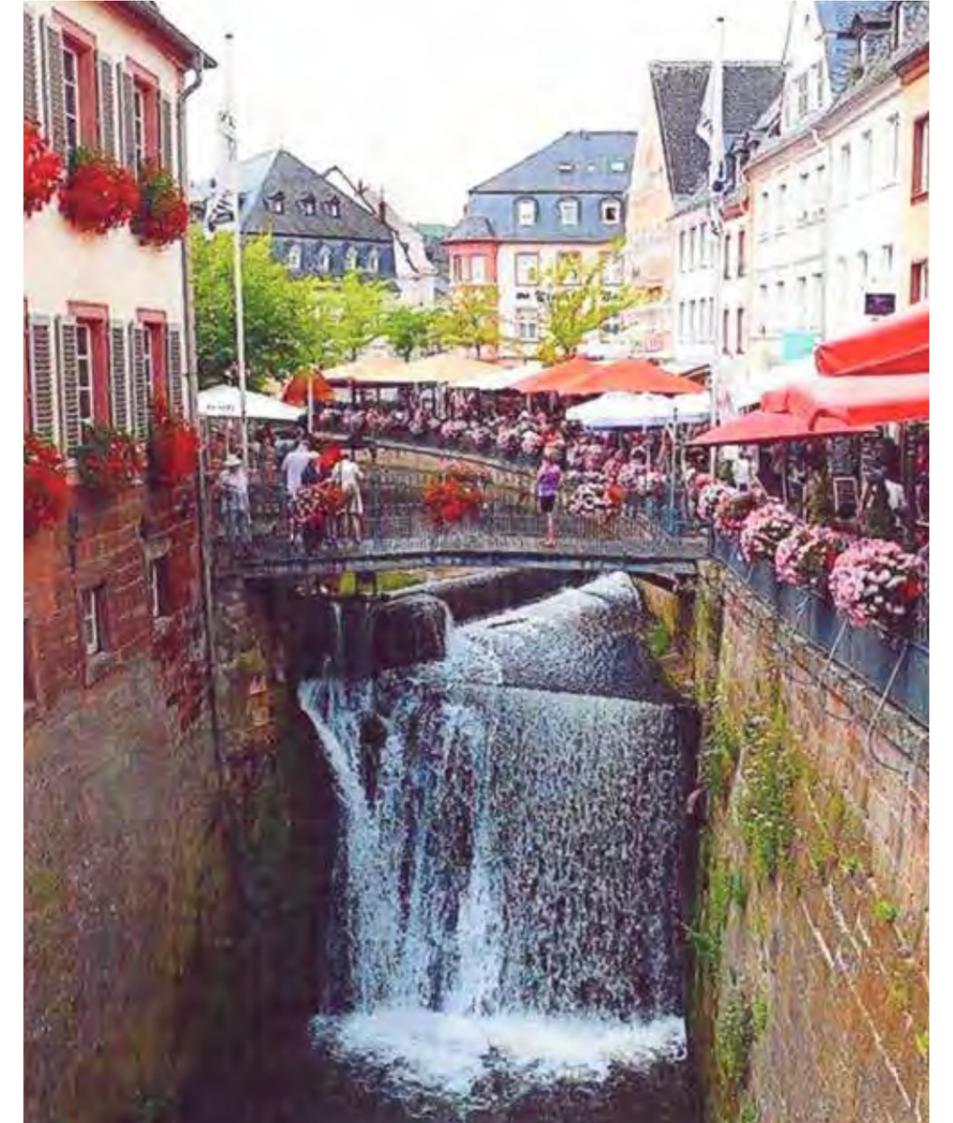


Image: Suggestion provided by member of the public for Area 1 (Foregate)



Image: Suggestion provided by member of the public for Area 1 (Foregate)



Image: Suggestion provided by member of the public for Area 1 (Foregate)

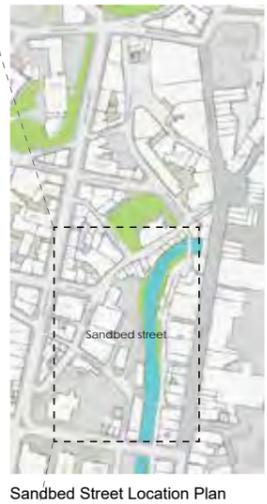
Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A.5 - Sandbed Street Feedback (Proposals 31-40)

KILMARNOCK Area 2



Sandbed Street Proposals



- High Priority
- Mid Priority
- Low Priority

Comments:

Sandbed Street Proposals Plan



31. Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engaging with the Wildlife Trust



36. Replace the existing tarmac surface with a fanned sett surface to improve the heritage aspect of the corridor.



32. Improving the attractiveness of 'No name Lane'



37. Develop the open space at the north of Sandbed and open up bridge aspect.



33. Negotiate the selective demolition of buildings along King Street to create a public open space that benefits both Sandbed and King Street.



38. Removal of pedestrian bridge between the buildings.



34. Repainting and removing galvanised street furniture.



39. Opening up buildings towards river frontage (cafés etc.)



35. Reduce volume of street signage and assimilated signs onto a reduced number of combined posts



40. Remodelling of former 'BHS' building

Priority Results

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

31. Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engaging with the Wildlife Trust
● 16 ● 9 ● 1

32. Improving the attractiveness of 'No name Lane'
● 5 ● 2 ● 3

33. Negotiate the selective demolition of buildings along King Street to create a public open space that benefits both Sandbed and King Street.
● 34 ● 5 ● 4

34. Repainting and removing galvanised street furniture.
● 1 ● 2 ● 5

35. Reduce volume of street signage and assimilated signs onto a reduced number of combined posts
● 3 ● 6 ● 4

36. Replace the existing tarmac surface with a fanned sett surface to improve the heritage aspect of the corridor.
● 1 ● 1 ● 3

37. Develop the open space at the north of Sandbed and open up bridge aspect.
● 5 ● 10 ● 2

38. Removal of pedestrian bridge between the buildings.
● 2 ● 11 ● 1

39. Opening up buildings towards river frontage (cafés etc.)
● 6 ● 8 ● 1

40. Remodelling of former 'BHS' building
● 4 ● 9 ● 4

In summary:
Highest Priority Proposals:

33
- Negotiate the selective demolition of buildings along King Street to create a public open space that benefits both Sandbed and King Street.

31
- Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engaging with the Wildlife Trust

39
- Opening up buildings towards river frontage (cafés etc.)

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

31. Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engaging with the Wildlife Trust
● 6 ● 1 ● 0

32. Improving the attractiveness of 'No name Lane'
● 1 ● 1 ● 0

33. Negotiate the selective demolition of buildings along King Street to create a public open space that benefits both Sandbed and King Street.
● 1 ● 0 ● 7

34. Repainting and removing galvanised street furniture.
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

35. Reduce volume of street signage and assimilated signs onto a reduced number of combined posts
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

36. Replace the existing tarmac surface with a fanned sett surface to improve the heritage aspect of the corridor.
● 0 ● 2 ● 0

37. Develop the open space at the north of Sandbed and open up bridge aspect.
● 1 ● 0 ● 0

38. Removal of pedestrian bridge between the buildings.
● 0 ● 2 ● 2

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

39. Opening up buildings towards river frontage (cafés etc.)

● 4 ● 2 ● 0

40. Remodelling of former 'BHS' building

● 3 ● 7 ● 0

In summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

31

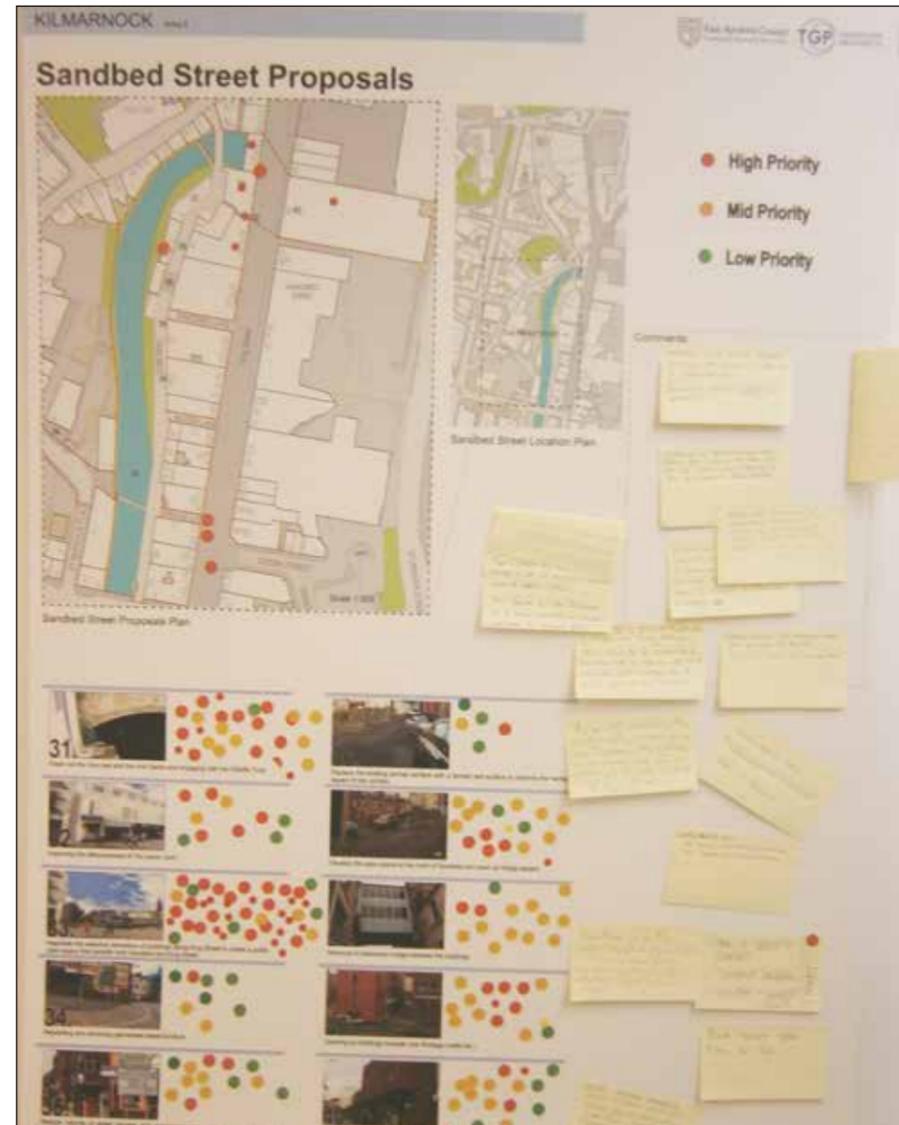
- Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engage with the Wildlife Trust

39

- Opening up buildings towards river frontage (cafés etc.)

40

- Remodelling of former 'BHS' building



Comments Summary

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

Demolition:

- In favour of opening Sandbed area and demolishing buildings BUT retain Goldsmiths building - it was the original Johnny Walker shop established in 1778. Must retain historical monuments.
- In favour of demolishing main building and creation of open space but no seats - just opportunity for drug users to hang around.
- What about the 'Woolworths chicane'? Get it down!

Former BHS as a market place

- BHS move people from indoor market to have good quality individual stands. Affordable but not cheap e.g. flower stalls, jewellery, planters, crafts, cheaper rent than shops attract people to Kings street... Character as 'Covered Market'
- Ground floor of BHS. Pedestrian access with retail either side possible connection to South end of Burns Mall.
- Supportive of : Open up spaces to Sandbed, Improve Sandbed. Old BHS as market space.

General Comments:

- The oldest bridge in Kilmarnock with a lot of history dating back to early 1700s. This should be the 'gateway' to a new pedestrian street leading to Howard park.
- Re-drawing of proposed break in shops on King Street, should be extended southward to open up and expose footbridge as a link across the river.
- In agreement demolish the empty Menzies building at 'no name lane' however the line of the lane should remain as it dates back to Robert Burns times in Kilmarnock.
- Address issues along southern section of king street south of St Marnock St. Demolish Overbridge and Units west of Sandbed.
- Agree with retention of historical buildings - town full of plaques telling what used to be here!
- The solution to improving the town centre shopping experience is not to demolish empty shops but to make them more affordable to small businesses by reducing overheads.

'No Name Lane':

- Retain outline of 'no name lane' with a wall or paving. 'Sun court lane not 'no name lane'.
- Knock down building. 33 then there wont be a lane to hide stolen goods to escape arrest.

Business:

- Bespoke business space rates too high.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

Demolition:

- 33. The picture shows more demolition than the big one in the hall, worried.

Parking:

- No parking charges throughout the week

Safety:

- More colourful, colourful light

Business:

- More better quality shops

'No Name' Lane:

- Having to use 'no name lane' to access Sandbed street, it is a disgraceful state and just a public toilet.
- Opening up street would create a feeling of more space.



Image: Consultation with disability groups. [15.11.17]

This page has been intentionally left blank

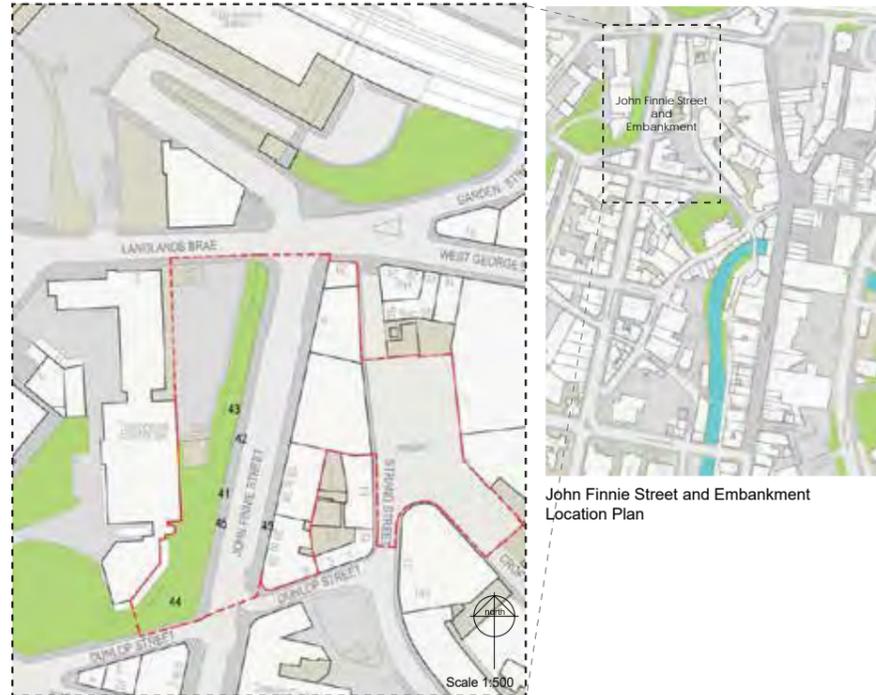
Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A.6 - John Finnie Street Feedback (Proposals 41-45)

KILMARNOCK Area 3



John Finnie Street and Embankment



Comments:

John Finnie Street and Embankment Proposals Plan



Priority Results

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

- 41. Repair wall
● 3 ● 3 ● 3
- 42. Footpath improvements
● 11 ● 4 ● 2
- 43. Eradication of Japanese Knotweed
● 7 ● 5 ● 2
- 44. Provide two locations for artworks on the angled grass area
● 1 ● 1 ● 8
- 45. Re-bedding of existing kerbs
● 3 ● 6 ● 5

In Summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

- 42
- Footpath improvements
- 43
- Eradication of Japanese Knotweed
- 45. Re-bedding of existing kerbs

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

- 41. Repair wall
● 1 ● 1 ● 0
- 42. Footpath improvements
● 1 ● 1 ● 0
- 43. Eradication of Japanese Knotweed
● 0 ● 2 ● 0
- 44. Provide two locations for artworks on the angled grass area
● 0 ● 0 ● 2
- 45. Re-bedding of existing kerbs
● 0 ● 2 ● 0

In Summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

- 41
- Repair wall
- 42
- Footpath improvements
- 43
- Eradication of Japanese Knotweed
- 45
- Re-bedding of existing kerbs

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Comments Summary

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

Maintenance

- Disgusting state of former Ossington Hotel - trees out of roof. Wonderful first view of Kilmarnock for rail visitor and travellers from Langlands Street.
- Improve clock at train station so it can be read at a distance.
- How about artificial grass for the BT embankment? Little maintenance and no H and S issues.
- Completely agree, just a terrible impression of Kilmarnock at the top of John Finnie Street, buildings falling apart!
- Eradication of knot-weed should be done on site.

Community Projects:

- Works on the area could be done as part of local authority / communities/ business works collaboration. In context these are fairly minor issues and community projects etc. could become involved with artistic and visual projects.
- I thought eradication of Japanese knotweed was underway as per the sign. Some areas could be improved by encouraging community participation. Local businesses could work together to achieve some of these proposals and promote the area and show good local involvement.

Redevelopment:

- My opinion should have stickers for every phase board.
- I know you need to have grading in coloured dots but I could have used a blizzard of red - so much scope for improvement. Heartening to see the level of interest.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

Maintenance:

- Footpath, kerb replacement and wall repairs should be standard maintenance.



Image: Consultation with disability groups. [15.11.17]



A.7 - Shopping Area Extension Feedback (Proposals 41-45)



<p>46. Replace street furniture for a more modern design</p>	<p>51. Liaise with property owners to foster first floor occupation</p>	<p>56. Revisit one-way system and potentially return roads to two-way traffic</p>
<p>47. Review the amount of necessary street furniture – replace lighting columns with fewer brighter and more energy efficient LED lights</p>	<p>52. Grant aided shop front improvements programme</p>	<p>57. Review car parking strategy to improve pedestrian priority circulation</p>
<p>48. Removal of vegetation from buildings</p>	<p>53. Restoration programme for vacant properties</p>	<p>58. Coordinate the use of vehicular signage to de-clutter the road corridors and enhance the pedestrian priority throughout the entire expanded core area.</p>
<p>49. Extend public art installations</p>	<p>54. Positioning of artwork</p>	<p>59. Purchasing derelict buildings within John Finnie Street</p>
<p>50. Upgrade walkway and kerbs</p>	<p>55. New features for triangle at the South entry to John Finnie Street.</p>	

Priority Results

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

46. Replace street furniture for a more modern design
 ● 0 ● 1 ● 5

47. Review the amount of necessary street furniture – replace lighting columns with fewer brighter and more energy efficient LED lights
 ● 0 ● 3 ● 5

48. Removal of vegetation from buildings
 ● 12 ● 19 ● 5

49. Extend public art installations
 ● 0 ● 1 ● 7

50. Upgrade walkway and kerbs
 ● 1 ● 3 ● 2

51. Liaise with property owners to foster first floor occupation
 ● 8 ● 9 ● 2

52. Grant aided shop front improvements programme
 ● 8 ● 2 ● 0

53. Restoration programme for vacant properties
 ● 10 ● 7 ● 2

54. Positioning of artwork
 ● 2 ● 2 ● 7

55. New features for triangle at the South entry to John Finnie Street.
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 10

56. Revisit one-way system and potentially return roads to two-way traffic
 ● 15 ● 1 ● 12

57. Review car parking strategy to improve pedestrian priority circulation
 ● 4 ● 4 ● 3

58. Coordinate the use of vehicular signage to de-clutter the road corridors and enhance the pedestrian priority throughout the entire expanded core area.
 ● 0 ● 3 ● 2

59. Purchasing derelict buildings within John Finnie Street
 ● 19 ● 10 ● 5

In Summary:
Highest Priority Proposals:

56
- Revisit one way system and potentially return roads to two way traffic.

48
-Removal of vegetation from building.

53
- Restoration programme for vacant properties.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

46. Replace street furniture for a more modern design
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

47. Review the amount of necessary street furniture – replace lighting columns with fewer brighter and more energy efficient LED lights
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

48. Removal of vegetation from buildings
 ● 6 ● 2 ● 1

49. Extend public art installations
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

50. Upgrade walkway and kerbs
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

51. Liaise with property owners to foster first floor occupation
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 3

52. Grant aided shop front improvements programme
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 1

53. Restoration programme for vacant properties
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 1

54. Positioning of artwork
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

55. New features for triangle at the South entry to John Finnie Street.
 ● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

56. Revisit one-way system and potentially return roads to two-way traffic

● 6 ● 1 ● 1

57. Review car parking strategy to improve pedestrian priority circulation

● 0 ● 0 ● 0

58. Coordinate the use of vehicular signage to de-clutter the road corridors and enhance the pedestrian priority throughout the entire expanded core area.

● 0 ● 0 ● 0

59. Purchasing derelict buildings within John Finnie Street

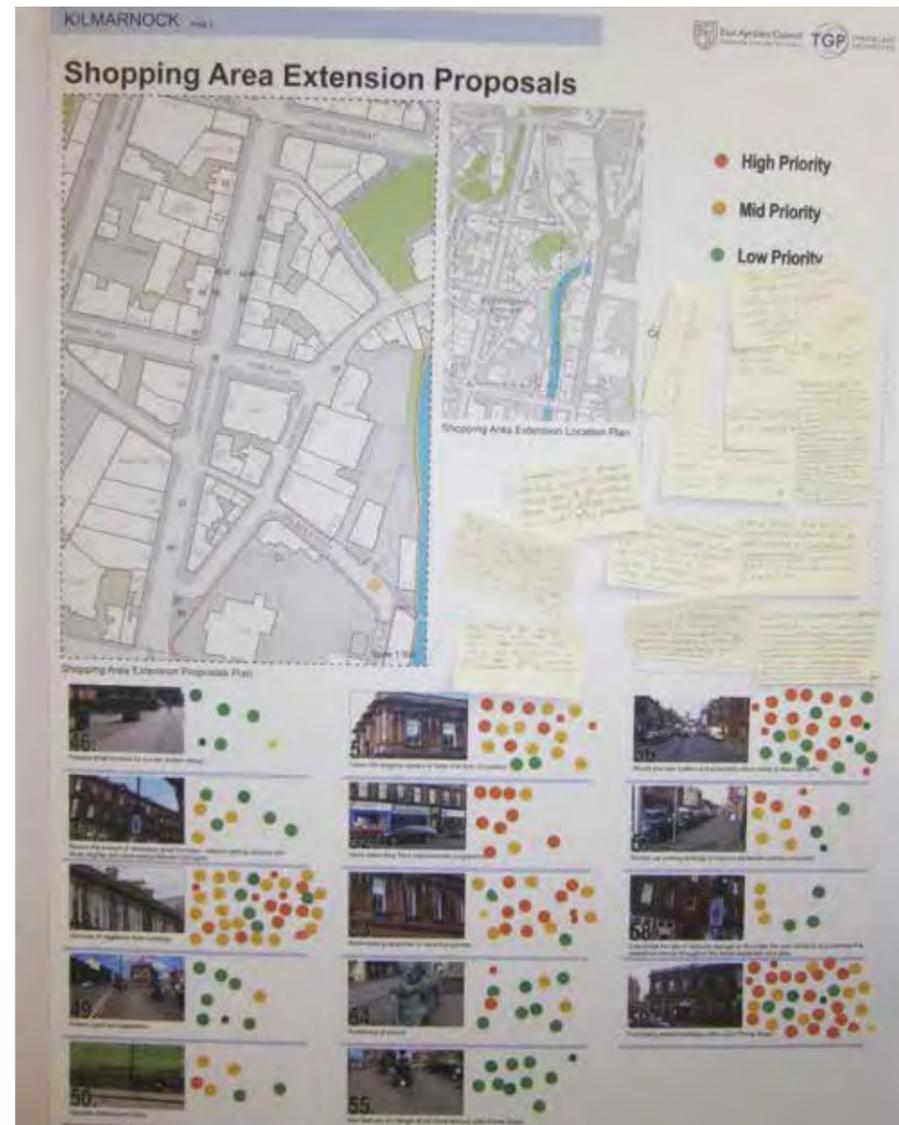
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

In Summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:

56
- Revisit one-way system and potentially return roads to two-way traffic

48
- Removal of vegetation from buildings



Comments Summary

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

Maintenance

- Problem with vegetation growing out of buildings.
- John Finnie street was meant to be the prime street of the town and it's sad that buildings of such quality have been allowed to deteriorate to this extent.
- At the corner of First Edition pub an Bar Luca, have building owners remove the tree from the corner of the guttering. Bank Street generally very nice.
- John Finnie Street looking much improved. Finishing buildings

which are sprouting weeds and improving derelict buildings would further improve the area.

Dereliction:

- 59 These properties are not derelict they are for rent - there is a surplus of office space in Kilmarnock. The old post office is derelict with no proposal of its future use.
- 4-6 John Finnie Street opposite station - a building of extreme importance is empty and in a disgusting state.
- Council need to purchase 4-6 John Finnie Street properties as it is in a poor state

Traffic management:

- Return John Finnie street to two way traffic with roundabout at top (station).
- Enough bother with present one way in John Finnie Street without over thinking of returning to two way. This has been suggested before by highly paid English consultant whose report was rubbish.
- 56 why two way?
- The one way system has worked for as long as I can remember, what would be the perceived benefit?

Parking:

- What is the car parking strategy?
- Towns with most business and visitor success have more cheap parking beside shops etc. none of these proposals address this

Town Plan:

- Attempting to extend shopping in town centre would be a mistake, selective demolition would be more appropriate.
- The strategy should be made more to attract business and to use buildings for tourism etc.

Proposals are too aesthetic:

- Proposals appear aesthetic. Bigger issues need addressed. Historic buildings need maintained and developed into focal points.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

- The furniture should be of a high standard to last, and maintained properly. What is the new parking strategy?

Although the artworks can be attractive there needs to be more community involvement.

Artwork etc. can be improved but shouldn't be a priority.

Street Furniture

- Old concrete furniture shop empty outside rail station. Brae at top of John Finnie Street is an eyesore.

Community projects:

- A lot of these proposals can be addressed by the council/local businesses and community collaboration.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders.
[15.11.17]

Maintenance:

- Removal of vegetations should be standard maintenance.

Safety:

- No more bollards positioned like the ones in Bank Street as the shop keepers attach sandwich boards to them and because the space between the bollards and the shop fronts is very narrow. When boards are attached to bollards it forces him and his guide dog into the road (Blind user)



Image: Consultation with disability groups. [15.11.17]

This page has been intentionally left blank

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

A.8 - Street Furniture

KILMARNOCK BOARD 7



Street furniture

Which existing furniture would you like to keep?

Existing bins



Design critique:
Whilst this provides consistency, the present suite is over-engineered, bulky and can be oppressive in areas where there is a lot of furniture within a confined area. The dimensions and impact of the street furniture are also inappropriate to some of the more sensitive areas such as around Laigh Kirk and along John Finnie Street.

Proposal:
A simplification of the street furniture palette, in combination with a 'de-cluttering' exercise to reduce the volume of street furniture and simplify/combine/reduce the amount of signage within the town centre will further clarify the environment.

- High Priority
- Mid Priority
- Low Priority

Existing bollards



Existing benches



Existing lighting columns



Existing tree grills



Existing cycle stands



Existing guardrail



Which proposed furniture would you like to see in Kilmarnock?

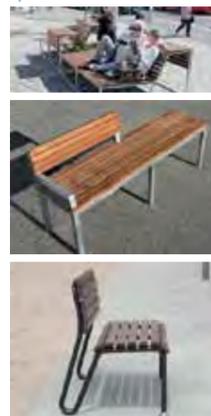
Proposed bins



Proposed lighting columns



Proposed benches



Proposed bollards - as existing and new



Proposed tree grills



Proposed cycle stands



Priority Results

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

Existing Street Furniture:

Existing bins
● 0 ● 3 ● 0

Existing Bollards
● 1 ● 0 ● 0

Existing Tree Grills
● 0 ● 2 ● 0

Existing cycle stands
● 0 ● 0 ● 2

Existing benches
● 0 ● 3 ● 3

Existing lighting columns
● 1 ● 0 ● 1

Existing guardrail
● 5 ● 0 ● 0

Proposed Street Furniture:

Proposed bins
● 4 ● 0 ● 1

Proposed Bollards
● 3 ● 4 ● 1

Proposed Tree Grills
● 4 ● 3 ● 0

Proposed cycle stands
● 8 ● 7 ● 0

Proposed benches
● 3 ● 8 ● 7

Proposed lighting columns
● 4 ● 1 ● 0

In Summary:

Highest Priority Proposals:
Proposed Cycle Stands
Existing guardrail

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

Existing Street Furniture:

Existing bins
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Existing Bollards
● 0 ● 0 ● 1

Existing Tree Grills
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

Existing cycle stands
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Existing benches
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Existing lighting columns
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Existing guardrail
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Proposed Street Furniture:

Proposed bins
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Proposed Bollards
● 0 ● 2 ● 0

Proposed Tree Grills
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

Proposed cycle stands
● 0 ● 0 ● 0

Proposed benches
● 3 ● 2 ● 0

Proposed lighting columns
● 0 ● 1 ● 0

In Summary:

Highest Priority Proposal:
Proposed Benches
Proposed Bollards

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study



Comments Summary

Public Consultation with general public. [20.10.17]

In support of new furniture:

- All furniture needs upgraded
- Cycle lockers are a priority - replace them
- Recycling bins for plastic/paper/cans as opposed to one bin for all rubbish.
- A good idea having seats with backs.

In support of retaining and maintaining the existing:

- Furniture is fine but requires regular cleaning and painting.
- The furniture is fine it's just covered in moss and stuck to the ground.
- Street furniture is OK, other things are more important, especially seeing as money is in short supply.
- Existing street furniture is good but need to focus on pavements instead. Why replace, if safe then just refurbish.
- Existing gates - paint them. Existing benches - paint them instead of getting new bollards, paint them. Get another proposed lighting option, proposal not that safe.
- Existing furniture is good.
- Street furniture is generally good just needs to be maintained properly.
- Paint existing benches rather than get new wooden benches, wooden not hard wearing.
- Revisit the station clock slope and repairs and replace dead plants. Work on kerbs and pavements. From Bank street. Tidy up and passage to king street.
- Agree with improving street furniture generally maintenance of existing slabs and cobbles must be improved as well as regular cleansing of same.

Public Consultation with Disability Groups and Local Stakeholders. [15.11.17]

In support of new furniture:

- Seagull proof bins
- Seats with a backrest are better than the existing benches, better for older people.
- More bins

In support of retaining and maintaining the existing:

- Why? Keep it painted. Remove Bank street Bollards.



Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Comments raised during consultation

There is a general concern among many of the local people that the proposals are aesthetic, papering over the cracks, and not sufficiently radical to achieve the required change.

Foregate

- Keep seating available for elderly and less able people at Foregate.
- Move Taxi Rank but keep close proximity to mall and bus station if possible. Taxi drop off only with disabled spaces.
- Keep access to a public toilet, i.e. in Burns Mall
- Generally, in favour of demolition of unused buildings for the creation of open space, connection to river and to condense retail into more active and attractive areas. In favour of moving retail out of Foregate and demolishing.
- Increase footfall to reduce antisocial behaviour.
- In general, there is confusion about what is meant by a 'public priority open space'.
- Maintenance i.e. to the Clydesdale bank should be funded by the bank itself and not with public money
- Increase police presence in areas with antisocial behaviour issues i.e. foregate.
- In favour of improving shop frontages.
- Don't remove facilities or shelter without a consideration of replacement.
- Request from the local stakeholders to create a covered shopping area similar to that at Silverburn.
- New glass doors to multi storey car park to reduce antisocial behaviour.

Sandbed Street

- In favour of demolishing empty buildings to create a connection to the river but with a wish to retain and maintain historical buildings.
- Multiple suggestions to use the former BHS building as a marketplace.
- More focus on Sandbed Street bridge as a key link, it is the oldest bridge in the town (late 1700s)
- Generally, in favour of demolishing the building beside no name lane to reduce antisocial behaviour and create a link, but stress the cultural importance of this lane and reference by Robert Burns, therefore outline of lane should be maintained.
- Make retail units more affordable to local businesses, also to

encourage more high-end businesses and restaurants/ cafés to the area.

- Request for free parking areas so as to allow competition with Silverburn and Glasgow.
- Improve lighting in this area for safety.
- Construction of a better wall at the river edge with a new surface and seating at points with views.
- Many suggestions for the potential open space that would be created by the demolition of buildings including outdoor learning space in connection to existing school heritage trail, café space, coffee kiosk, seating area for a pub. If this occurs, it will be important to maintain well buildings that become dominant to the view over the river.
- Suggestion to clear also 15-25 King Street.

John Finnie Street and Embankment

- In general, main priority should be improved maintenance to this area, including buildings and public foot-ways. It is the first impression of Kilmarnock entering the town from the bus station.
- Many of the works required are minor and could be done as part of a community initiative or business works collaboration.
- The improvements to the wall and footpath should be standard maintenance.
- Request for more attractive landscaping on the embankment.
- Consider the pedestrian priority lights, at times they result in gridlock.
- Trees out of roof at Ossington Hotel

Shopping Area Extension

- Better maintenance of buildings including the removal of vegetation.
- Building 4-6 of John Finnie Street is of high importance and being allowed to deteriorate.
- Mixed comments regarding the reintroduction of two-way traffic, some believe this will create more hassle than it is worth others propose two-way traffic with a roundabout at the top of the hill.
- In favour of no car parking fees for at least the weekend to help retail.
- In favour of selective demolition and a more incentives for business and tourism in the town centre.
- Many of the proposals should be addressed by the council and local business owners.
- Any furniture proposals should be hard wearing and of high

quality.

- Concern over the attachment of shop signs to bollards causing obstruction to paving and forcing vulnerable people into the road.
- Care should be taken that the artworks are not moved without consideration to the relevance of current locations.

Further Comments

- More street lighting including festive lighting
- Activate empty shopping units and encourage a wider variety of better known stores to encourage visitors to the town, currently too many bargain stores and charity shops.
- Concerns that the proposals are short term fixes and aesthetic improvements, there is a general feeling that money needs to be spent on more fundamental issues.
- In favour of improving the road surface quality but a request not to use cobbles as they are difficult and dangerous for less able pedestrians.
- Better enforcement of restricted vehicular access at the Foregate and King Street.
- De-clutter the streets by removing excess signage, especially those blocking footpaths
- Many requests to improve maintenance across the town, for example the removal of vegetation from buildings, repainting shop fronts, upgrading existing planters and clearing the river of debris.
- Multiple suggestions to introduce cheaper parking or free parking at weekends and to improve the multi-storey car park.
- Improvements needed at the station clock slope

Street Furniture

- In general, mixed opinions on the street furniture, some comments in favour of replacement of all existing furniture and others feel the furniture is fine but needs more regular maintenance. Should furniture be replaced, multiple comments requesting the introduction of seats with backs and advising against the use of timber due to it being less hard-wearing than metal.
- Cycle storage should be a priority.
- Many do not recommend wooden benches as they are not hard wearing.
- Request for pest proof bins as well as more bins.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Desired Priorities for Action

- **Foregate**

Public High Priority:

- Removal of seating to discourage antisocial behaviour within Foregate square,
- Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre along Foregate Street to create a pedestrian priority open space.

- **Sandbed Street**

Public High Priority:

- Negotiate the selective demolition of buildings along King Street to create a public open space that benefits both Sandbed and King Street,
- Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engage with the Wildlife Trust.

- **John Finnie Street and Embankment**

Public High Priority:

- Footpath improvements
- Repair wall

- **Shopping Area Extension**

Public High Priority:

- Removal of vegetation from building,
- Revisit one-way system and potentially return roads to two way traffic.

- **Street Furniture**

Public High Priority:

- New Cycle stands in the town centre,
- New bollards,
- Proposed benches.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

B.1 - Participant Information

Participant data:

Total Number of Participants:

107

Postcode:

KA1: 39

KA2: 45

KA3: 4

KA4 or greater: 17

(some participants did not disclose their post codes)

Participant Gender:

Female - 67.29%

Male - 28.97%

Prefer not to say - 3.74%

Participant Age:

Answer Choices

Responses

5-11 0.00%

12-15 2.80%

16-24 9.35%

25-44 39.25%

45-54 32.71%

55-64 15.89%

65+ 0.93%

Prefer not to answer 0.00%

Participant with disability:

yes 7.48%

no 89.72%

Prefer not to answer 2.80%

B.2 - Comments

Survey Monkey Comments Summary

Foregate:

- Foregate is the main area for improvement
- Removing seating, relocating the taxi rank would hugely reduce loitering and anti social behaviour. (3 comments)
- The taxi rank provides surveillance especially at night, concerns with relocation of taxi rank further from bus station. (4 comments)
- Improving safety in this area is highly important (5 comments)
- Retain furniture, it is in use (5 comments)
- Demolish or partially demolish and rebuild Foregate. (4 comments)
- More substantial proposals needed including demolition, not just repainting. (5 comments)
- Improve lighting (2 comments)
- Lift needed in multi-story car park and safety concerns (3 comments)
- Keep access to public toilet.
- Incentives for retail and business to occupy vacant units

Sandbed Street:

- In favour of clearing the river and engaging with wildlife trust (6 comments)
- In favour of proposal to demolish building on King street to open up views and connection to river. (8 comments)
- Re-purposing the former BHS building (3 comments)
- Upgrading area around Clydesdale bank.

- No name lane is unclean and unsafe (4 comments)

John Finnie Street and Embankment:

- More efficient clearing of Japanese Knotweed required (4 comments)
- Request for an attractive landscape proposal on the embankment
- Footpath improvements a priority and link to rest of town with paving (3 comments)
- Reduce vacant units
- Many maintenance proposals do not need public opinion, should be routine maintenance.

Shopping Area Extension:

- In favour of improving building frontages (2 comments)
- More cafe and restaurants
- Bring focus to heritage buildings
- Improve traffic system and pedestrian experience (5 comments)
- Suggestion of a covered shopping mall
- Reduce vacant units by better incentives and lower rent (6 comments)
- Cheaper and more available parking
- Keep traffic as it is, too much hassle to change
- Maintenance should be routine
- More substantial proposals needed, less focus on the cosmetic
- Improve consistency of signage and shop frontages

Proposals are to aesthetic:

- Improving the aesthetics is not as important as improving the actual town underneath (4 comments)

In support of new furniture:

- New bollards, bins and cycle stands (2 comments)
- I think certain street furniture needs upgraded but not all especially when East Ayrshire Council is constantly trying to cut costs.
- Prefer the new proposals to improve street furniture to bring the town up into a modern feel. Concerns however if big retailers are not going to come to Kilmarnock then the town may still be doomed
- The proposal is a great idea. And I would say all the furniture needs replaced
- Love the brighter new benches and bollards Bright, light and modern is important
- More trees with coloured lighting similar to those in front of the multi storey car park and bus station would be good.

Retain and maintain furniture

- Retain existing street furniture but with improved maintenance, use the money elsewhere, ie pavement repairs/emergency repairs to building frontages and also street. (12 comments)
- David Ogilvy furniture was built to last and should remain.
- Declutter streets, signage etc. (3 comments)
- Some of the improvements would go unnoticed to general public, improvements on seating aren't necessary in areas that aren't around king street.

Advice on type

- The lounge style bench is not a good idea. Would attract the wrong element
- Remove granite bollards in Foregate Square and replace with - same type as Bank St.
- Seating needs to be a priority for elderly and disabled people
- The only street furniture that needs to be replaced is the seating.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Proposed benches are nice but not the ones that look like beds.

- Wooden street furniture would be nice, but it will be set on fire. That's a given.

Safety

- Better street lighting
- In favour of reducing the availability of loitering space (6 comments)

Buildings maintenance

- In favour of the demolition of the Foregate Burns Mall. Opening up the route to the river. (6 comments)
- More regular maintenance of buildings (3 comments)
- Concerns over tax payer contributing to maintenance of private buildings.

Buildings retail

- King Street as a focus for retail, in need or rejuvenation.
- More high end shops needed, fewer bargain shops. (4 comments)
- Consider forming an undercover shopping area joining kings Street to Burns mall, to compete with Silverburn. (3 comments)
- Please consider architectural heritage, ie sandstone buildings on John Finnie Street. (2 comments)

Business incentives

- I agree the town does need a make-over...it looks tired, dated and there is no "buzz" about the place. I don't think changing the street furniture will bring decent shops to the town. Perhaps the Council could come up with more incentives to encourage business back to the town centre. We certainly don't need anymore charity shops, card shops, betting shops or pubs! Oh, and free parking would make a huge difference! (4 comments)
- More restaurants

- More independent local and craft retailers

Car parking, traffic

- Free parking on a Saturday and Sunday would go a long way to encouraging people in to Kilmarnock Town. (5 comments)
- Proposals are a start but need to go further with more investment required
- The proposals are a good step forward, but work needs to be done in shared traffic areas like John Dickie Street where vehicles regularly treat the shared areas as normal roads with no regard for pedestrians. Speed limits need to be in place and proper thought given to priorities in areas of that type to improve pedestrian access in the town centre. (3 comments)
- If the taxi rank is re-located from the Foregate, the rank will require to be in a central location, which is within close proximity to shopping area.
- Better traffic management to improve bottle necks e.g. at multi storey.



This page has been intentionally left blank

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

C.1 - Email Comments

Comments Summary

Further Comments received by email at East Ayrshire Council

Foregate:

- The public have a right to toilet facilities in the town centre.
- Taxi rank area should be drop off only with disabled spaces.
- In favour of cleaning the Foregate bridge, painting frontages and lighting. (2 comments)
- The proposal to remove the overhangs should involve an alternative being proposed as these overhangs, although unsightly, provide shelter from weather and bird excrement.
- New glass doors for the multi-storey car park entrance.

Sandbed Street:

- Knock down building enclosing 'No Name' Lane and create attractive route to river. (2 comments)
- Develop a John Walker Centre through development of the Goldsmiths shop, 13 King Street.
- As a tourist attraction for Kilmarnock the author would propose the construction of a "Water, Light and Sound" Fountain similar to the waltzing waters project in Newtonmore.
- The opportunity is the potential to convert these "cellars" into small craft shops located in a pedestrianised walkway alongside the river, very much in keeping with the national policy of opening up town centre rivers.

John Finnie Street and Embankment

- Repair wall and landscape the embankment, including better maintenance.
- Continue footpath improvements across the whole town, kerbs should prevent cars from bumping up onto kerbs.
- At times pedestrian priority lights cause gridlock in the town centre.

Shopping area extension

- The artwork locations are specific to their designs
- Better enforcement of legislation regarding vacant properties is required.
- Utilise the Rotunda RBS building at the cross as a Robert Burns and Robert Stirling centre.

Antisocial Behaviour:

- Please do something about the people under the influence of drugs

in and around the bus station and shopping mall. People visiting the town by bus have commented about this problem on social media and it is an embarrassment and gives Kilmarnock a bad reputation and image (5 comments)

- Removal of phone boxes, believed to be used by drug dealers.
- More street lighting including festive lighting. (2 comments)

Retail:

- More variety of shops and some more well known shops, restaurants and cafés in the centre, less bargain stores and charity shops. (4 comments)
- I'd love to see a Tim Hortons store a Dunkin Donuts store and a Krispy Kreme store replace 3 former shops in King Street a big Primark replacing the former BHS store the two Subway restaurants fully digitally refurbished even bring the likes of Debenhams, H&M, TGI, Fridays, Five Guys and Starbucks.
- The town is in need of a good show shop for children's shoes. Clarks shoes was a big loss. East Ayrshire Council should reduce shop rent. (2 comments)
- Activate empty units (3 comments)
- Conversion of former BHS to an indoor market.

Concerns over aesthetic proposals:

- Concern over short term fixes and only aesthetic improvements within the town centre. Money needs to be spent on more fundamental issues. (6 comments)

Traffic and Pedestrians:

- Signage clutter forces pedestrians into the carriageway on the route to and from the train station, at the crossing. Re-positioning of these poles and widening of the foot-way on West George Street would ease this issue.
- Improve road surface quality but do not use cobbles, dangerous deterrent for pedestrians. (2 comments)
- Traffic in King Street and Foregate (parked, deliveries and being driven by non-disabled badge holders) is a major problem to pedestrian safety. (2 comments)
- Cycles are even being ridden against the run of traffic.
- When the Continental Market is on, it can be difficult to get room

to walk along the pavement and gain access to businesses.

- Pedestrians, wheelchair and mobility scooter users, pram buggy pushers, small children, elderly people and people with mobility issues, have great difficulty.
- Do not revisit the two way system, the traffic would be gridlocked.

Demolition:

- Knock down all the eyesore modern buildings and replace with all the beautiful sandstone buildings that made Kilmarnock a great place to live.
- Knock down the multi-storey and burns mall to create an open space with view of viaduct and palace theatre. Lower the road there too so it doesn't obscure view.

Signage:

- De-clutter the streets by removing some signage and poles that block pedestrian access and narrow footpaths. (6 comments)

Car Parking:

- Improve the multi-storey car park, cheapen the parking, (2 comments)

Street Furniture:

- Don't put wooden benches in the town again, waste of money, stick with metal for ease of drying and cleaning.
- More continuity with bollards and street furniture throughout the town.

Maintenance:

- In support of removing vegetation from buildings. (2 comments)
- In favour of repainting, shop fronts, bank facade, car park facade. (2 comments)
- In favour of upgrading and using existing planters. (2 comments)
- Cleaning out of the river as a high priority.

Further Consultation

- I would ask you to have a proper public meeting where you ask for people to come up with some radical ideas to REALLY CHANGE the town centre. This feels like a time to make some real change and real improvement.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

C.2 - Received Handouts



Image received referencing a comment during the consultation that the building highlighted above is of notable architecture and should have more presence within the town.



Kilmarnock 2020 – Proposed Action Points 28th Oct 2017 “Its future is its history”

Background
 Kilmarnock’s founders grew the town by developing new ideas and reasons for people stay and visit. People now gravitate to Glasgow so it is evitable that Kilmarnock will be a satellite or dormer town. However the amenities can still be developed and create jobs by focusing on attracting tourists and visitors.

Proposals

- Develop a John Walker Centre, keeping to initial demolition plan but utilising the original JW shop site through redevelopment of the Goldsmiths shop 13 King St which is under-utilised. This would bring additional footfall to the jeweller with sitieseers and tourists visiting the centre. 

With or without Diageo it should be done as it capitalises on a worldwide brand’s birthplace.

- Utilise the Rotunda RBS building at the cross as a Robert Burns and Robert Stirling Centre. Relocate the working replica of Wilson’s printing press from the Dick Institute, with pre-printed copies of Burns’ poems so visitors could have their names printed on them as gifts. Kit models made by Grange Academy pupils could be sold as souvenirs for school funds. The centre could also link with the World Burns Federation based at the Dean Castle. 
- A Stirling exhibition could link to the Laigh Kirk & Galston church. Kilmarnock College apprentices could produce Willie Kidd type model Stirling engines. 
- Replica models of “The Duke” steam engine, the first locomotive in Scotland, could be similarly promoted to link to the Kilmarnock to Troon railway and the worlds oldest Viaduct at Laigh Milton Mill. 
- Last, but not least, the town centre must be more active at night by developing restaurant and café cultures along with activities that make the area attractive to people to visit and at the same time be safer. A positive element would be establishing a police presence and contact point nearby the Bus Station and multi-storey Car Park by relocating the CAB in the Foregate and having a Police Scotland desk/office there. 

Handout received informing of historical information on Kilmarnock.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Handout recieved

Priority R-Y-G	Comment
Overview	
	East Ayrshire Councils decision to employ consultants TBG landscape Consultants is fair enough, but after discussion with one of the Principles of TBG it became apparent that was no significant briefing about the history and culture of Kilmarnock prior to their 2 days fact finding mission, this means that some of their suggestions miss the point entirely due to a lack of local knowledge. They seemed also to be unaware of previous consultations and recommendations, some of which have yet again been repeated in their report. Some of their ideas are credible and many have already been discussed with the local shopkeepers and business people, to little or no effect.
	The report is is very much targeted at projects which would improve the look and asthetics of the town centre, however, this is not going to solve the main problem in Kilmarnock, just like many other towns, the paradigm shift in how people shop and where they shop and the direct correlation between this and the rapidly disappearing footfall in Kilmarnock, this is where a different type of Consultant is required. Kilmarnock is never going to recover from the loss of the industrial based jobs which were the wealth of Kilmarnock in days gone past, perhaps EAC needs to focus on attracting the Millennial type jobs which are mostly based in the Cities where 100 of millions of £'s are spent attracting these employees into the City. Who would want to shop in Kilmarnock during the 364 days of inclement weather and the 1 Summers Day when they are spoilt for choice with many warm, comfortable and enteraining "Malls" all within a 20 mile radius of Kilmarnock. The Keppie Design Cultural Quarter proposal is heading in the direction that EAC needs to head, but much braver and lots more innovative ideas are needed to bring the volume of visitors to Kilmarnock that will make the significant difference to the town centre footfall required.
Foregate Area 1	
1	Removal of public toilet, this has already been repositioned from within the Foregate at great expense, however attractive the building maybe, it is still little used except for nefarious purpose. The Public have the right to toilet facilities in the town centre therefore the manned provision within the Burns Mall would have to be retained.
2	The Taxis already have provision within the car park next to the north entrance to the bus station, the taxi drop of/pick point should be relocated here, in tandem with the improvements proposed for the Bus Station. The area should be for drop off only and a limited number of Disabled spaces which are already well provisioned for in the town car parks.
3	This is a very poorly worded proposal, it is not the furniture that is the problem, it is the drug addicts who misuse this area causing loitering and anti social behaviour. The root cause of the problem is most of the 832 drug addicts only use 4 of the 32 methadone dispensing chemists in the town centre, the real solution is to restrict their dispensing to their local postcode chemist, this does not restrict their "rights", but does limit the degree of the problem and can be easily managed.
4	Replacing the street furniture with a more modern style is totally futile waste of money, there is nothing wrong with the furniture except that it is covered in verdigris due to a lack of any maintenance by EAC. The furniure is substantial and fit for purpose, the very opposite of the IKEA type furniture suggested elsewhere and which does not even appear to be bolted to the ground.
5	Cleaning the Foregate bridge - this should be painted to match the rest of the street furniture and innovatively illuminated and the planters made much more attractive with a simple self watering system which will save EAC money on daily watering. Take a hint from Illuminight.
6	Refer to above.
7	Painting of the concrete panels should be a part of the whole repainting of the Foregate project and should use a sympathetic coulour of special stain inhibitor paint or anti bird fowling paint.
8	One can only assume that removal of overhangs refers to the glass panels which collect all the bird excrement and have never been cleaned, not the projecting windows on the building. These panels do provide shelter from the inclement weather and walking/slipping on the huge amount of bird fouling always present, perhaps an alternative or improved shelter could be included.
9	Painting of the steel panels in different brightly coloured sections would brighten the current dismal 1980's look.
10	Repainting of shop fronts would require the agreement of the property owners since the bulk of the properties are privately owned. Similar to above the sympathetic use of bright tones would compliment the steel panels.
11	Replacement of soffit lights should be completed in conjunction with wall LED lights creating a much warmer and brighter atmosphere on the whole length of the street. Background music or soft changing lights could further enhance the poor atmosphere here.
12	The security/acces doors to both south and north entrances to the car park need significant restructuring. The should be the full width of the internal corridor, projecting out from the building and be of glass construction, well illuminated from inside and out, with automated doors, (have you tried opening these doors?) this may well result in stopping the stairwells being used for urinating, one of the main reasons people don't use the car park is because of the stink of urine.
13	Yes, the street lighting should be replaced with much more efficient LED lighting and enhanced by a covering net type fairy lighting as previously suggested to Council on many occasions, this may also deter the attacks by "skt rats".

14	Traffic control in this solus pedestrian area is certainly abused by vans, trucks and even Police patrol cars accessing this area, where regularly they complete reverse turn manouvres and cause untold damage to the paving slabs which are not designed to support vehicles. Accepting the need of access for emergency vehicles, there is most definetly a need for some form of emergency bollard control.
15	Upgrading of the bank buildings façade, perhaps using multiple coloured steel panels as used in many modern buildings, combined with a sympathetic painting to match the rest of the Foregate and further improved coloured lights in the Glass Tower lighting, perhaps reflecting those of the railway arches would be a great improvement, especially as the pedestrian corridor from the railway station area.
16	The planters are never planted, they are only used by kids on their bikes using them as ramps to complete bike stunts, it at least amuses the kids, so maybe there should be a suitable area in the town centre given to this activity. The planters should be removed and hanging baskets which can't be vandalised put in there place maintaining some colour and natural aspect.
17	A significant improvement to the Foregate Square would be the instant removal of the 2 BT phone boxes which are only used by shop lifters, drug users and for illegal urination, ask the local shop keepers how often they are used for their intended purpose and summons BT to prove their use by the number of calls recorded. There are 2 sets of public payphones within the Burns Mall which surrounds these 2 undesirable objects. Create something large in this nefarious corner so that it can't be used to hide from public/cctv view.
18	Refer to notes on No 14.
19	The picture in number 19 classically demonstrates the main problem with the signage, lack of TLC, the picture shows the verdigris covered signage, same as most of the other signs, EAC needs to commit to maintaining such items as street furniture and signage. But, yes, there was a new Bus Station sign erected (if you could call it that), however, a more prominent and attractive signage should be incorporated with bus station upgrade.
20	Refer to notes number 13.
21	Assuming the referral is to a boarded up window, the property owner/factor should be forced to remedy the problem.
22	What would be the purpose of this Red Granite strip, the thousands of pounds this would cost could be better spent on other issues in the Foregate.
23	There is certainly more which can be done to improve the 1980's domineering hard architecture of this elevation of the multi story car park.
24	Permanent load tested fixings should be a permanent fixture included in the new lighting programme for the Foregate, perhaps EAC/shopkeepers jointly would erect Christmas lights annually to further improve the atmosphere in the new Foregate.
25	Perhaps the improvements suggested in this report will have the knock on effect of making the Foregate a desirable place to own a small business and negate the need for temporary artwork in the windows.
26	Enforce this as a No Smoking Area, you can hardly get near the entrance due to illicit smokers sheltering in the doorway
27	Perhaps the statue could be moved to the corner vacated by the removal of the 2 phone boxes and incorporated into a a feature filling the corner.
28	This is never going to happen, where would the money come from to compulsory purchase buildings, the millios of £'s this would cost should be spent creating vistor interest developing incremental footfall.
29	Implement the plan which was put in place for the CARS project which already has the standards and how the signage should be done, or a version of, no need to spend a fortune creating something that already exists.
30	An excellent idea which should be reflected on the opposing wall where the the removal of 2 BT phone Boxes would create a natural backdrop to the previously mentioned Statue.
Sandbed Area 2	
31	Cleaning out of the river bed and surrounds should be done in conjunction with several stakeholders who have an interest in using innovation and nature to create a natural pedestrain corridor through the town centre and drifting into the Howard Park.
32	There is no attractiveness to "no name lane" unless you are a shoplifter or drug addict. The only solution here is to demolish the building shown in the picture 32 and creating an open space through to the river, thus opening the area to the disgust of those with nefarious intent.
33	Refer to above and additional proposals for Sandbed Street project
34	Should this not read "Repainting galvanised street furniture to match others (black), these bollards prevent illicit parking and maintain a small open space creating an improved atmosphere.
35	Reduce street signage as too much is confusing to strangers (assuming we ever attract visitors), it is also rarely maintained and suffers from the abandoned look of verdigris just like the street furniture seen elsewhere.
36	Yes, this should be a pedestrian only corridor and by using the granite settes matching those in the rest of the town would be very suitable, please, make sure any underground works foreseeable are completed prior to this expensive project, no digging up after the event.
37	This is a good idea overlooking the weir and river, however, this may require a compulsory purchase order to obtain this land.
38	Yes, removal of this building would improve the opening up of Sandbed.
39	Opening up of buildings facing onto riverside yes. See "Sandbed Street Project by" G Findlay
40	It is extremely unlikely that a major retailer would be attracted to Kilmarnock, the footfall and stats don't stack up. Converting the store into a well planned and secure indoor market such as Lancaster City or Widnes indoor markets which are an integral part of the town rejuvenation. i.e. creating perhaps 50 small individual shops for local entrepreneurs with a central goods inward area to the rear for vehicle access. This may require the decanting of the indoor market opposite the Galleon Centre. This may also overcome the objection to Kilmarnock's lack of a covered mall.

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

John Finnie Street and Embankment Area 3		
41	Yellow	Repair wall, with a bit of hard landscaping sections of the wall and land fill could be removed and stabilised creating a rolling hill effect along the length of the embankment.
42	Red	Footpath improvements such as displayed, are required all over the town centre where there are broken or loose slate slabs causing considerable public danger and mostly caused by poor reinstatement or vehicular use, similar for the granite settes where there are missing or subsided areas of the cobbles. I would be surprised if there have been no claims.
43	Yellow	As far as I know the knotweed problem is at the end of its treatment period or perhaps it requires re treatment before it regrows.
44	Red	Are BT going to cut their grass more than once a year, this area is usually a mess of overgrown grass. Council letter to BT required enforcing their moral duties of tidyness in the community.
45	Green	Rebedding of kerbstones to a height sufficient to prevent vehicles bumping up on pavement for parking.
John Finnie Street Area 4		
46	Green	There is absolutely no reason, purpose or inclination to change the street furniture, this is a total waste of money which can be far better used elsewhere
47	Green	A reduction of road signage would certainly be tidier as long as the legislation is maintained, and the street lighting should only be upgraded when the existing lights are replaced through old age and failure to meet environmental requirements.
48	Red	Removal of vegetation from buildings, this task has been done before, perhaps proper treatment of these persistent weeds would inhibit their growth and the consequential damage caused to the buildings, many of which have already benefitted from CARS and Heritage funding.
49	Green	There is scope for further art however this is not a priority
50	Green	There appears to be little wrong with the walkways and kerbs with the exception of comments made earlier in this report. Where there is an obvious public hazard and safety issue, these areas should be prioritised.
51	Green	With an existing excess of unoccupied 1st floor office space and the further introduction of more offices into JFS in the form of the EAC converted Blue Triangle Building, unless there is a plan to bring more office type jobs into the town, then only commercial demand and perhaps a rate free policy will fill these unoccupied offices.
52	Green	There is already local legislation to control the type and colour of shop/office signage in the JFS area, why is this not enforced and then perhaps aided by some financial incentive
53	Green	A restoration programme of "vacant" offices may well be welcome, but don't forget, these properties are owned by private landlords who should be encouraged to maintain their properties, albeit, with some financial incentive to do so.
54	Green	It is obvious that whomever conducted this report is not aware of the significance of the location of the pictured art work and others throughout the town.
55	Green	Any new features added to this area would have to recognise that this is a very difficult junction for vehicles moving into JFS, especially anything that was detrimental to the Line of Sight for traffic coming from St.Marnock Street into JFS, sometimes at quite a high speed.
56	Yellow	This has been suggested in almost every consultation since JFS became one way and yet it has never happened, why, this is for EAC to explain why to the Kilmarnock residents.
57	Red	Any potential to change car parking in Kilmarnock is extremely limited and how this will improve "pedestrian priority circulation" is not explained. Less than 100 yards away from the location shown is the worst set of traffic lights in Ayrshire with everyone complaining about the length of time taken for traffic to pass through the junction of Dundonald Road, Portland road, JFS and St Marnock Street, on a good day you may see 4-5 vehicles actually managing to turn left onto JFS from Portland Road, ask the bus drivers, there are sometimes more buses here than at the bus station, all because of pedestrian priority circulation causing total gridlock in Kilmarnock and in particular JFS.
58	Red	In the length of JFS there are 4 pedestrian crossings suitably placed at strategic points, how is the reduction of traffic signage going to improve pedestrian priority. Perhaps some more visible Pelican crossings such as those recently placed in Wellington Street and with a better pedestrian controlled crossing period would improve the flow, most people give up waiting at the existing 2 Pelican crossings and choose to risk jaywalking.
59	Green	The definition of derelict is something that has become deserted or neglected. An example of derelict is a falling-down and rotted, abandoned building. There are no buildings in this state in JFS, however, there are a number of buildings owned by property developers who do not properly maintain their buildings i.e. Numbers 49,53,73, 4,108-114 or where there are no plans lodged for development (73 Old GPO). EAC should do more to enforce legislation. Where would EAC find the money to "compulsory purchase" buildings when imposed legislation may solve the problem

Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

Handout received

KILMARNOCK



"By Virtue and by Industry"

Sandbed Street Project



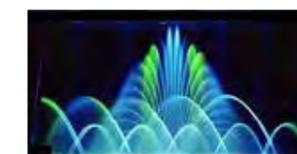
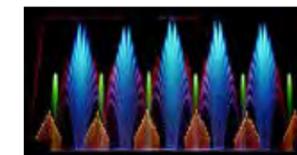
Sandbed Street Project

In Newtonmore, Scotland...

In 1979, the newly re-routed A9 motorway bypassed some of the tourist-dependent villages in the Scottish Highlands. Businessman Alex Donald knew something really new and different was required to draw tourists off the motorway into the village of Newtonmore.

While on holiday in Florida, he witnessed the Waltzing Waters. Stunned by its beauty and emotional appeal, he knew he found the perfect solution.

In 1990, Mr. Donald brought the show to Newtonmore and the Waltzing Waters quickly became one of the most popular attractions in the Scottish Highlands.



Sandbed Street Project

Like the main street in Kilmarnock in recent years, the small shops have also suffered from economic attrition and subsequent vacancy, but, mostly because of their small retail size and affordability (no NDR) and the realisation of business dreams of small business, they do have a regular turnover.

Bank Street and Nelson Street are mostly occupied by public houses, cafes, and boutique shops, but what is missing is the artistic shopping element such as craft, jewellery, antique, and musical instrument shops, the type of shops where people browse and attract a more diverse range of shoppers.

Sandbed Street Project

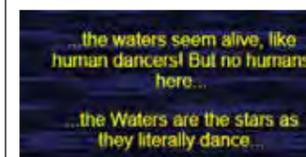
Opportunity

- Currently there are no shop premises in Sandbed Street, although there are plenty of access and fire escape doors for the upper premises accessed from King Street, the outline of old archways and access can be visibly noted by walking the length of Sandbed.
- The opportunity is the potential to convert these "cellars" into small craft shops located in a pedestrianised walkway alongside the river, very much in keeping with the national policy of opening up town centre rivers.
- A huge and one of opportunity has recently arisen by the advertised sales of the modern and hideous King Street property bordering the river where it runs under Kind Street. The author suggests this should be "compulsory purchased" and demolished, creating an open space leading directly from King Street to the river as per the Government policy of opening up town centre rivers, this is also adjacent to the ancient and possibly the oldest bridge in Kilmarnock.

This an ideal location for the Waltzing Waters -

Where tons of water explode into the air...illuminated by rainbows of colours... alive and dancing with music!

Sandbed Street Project



On the Isle of Wight, England...

The show in Scotland was such a success, Mr. Donald decided to bring the Waltzing Waters to England. The Isle of Wight was an obvious choice as it was already a popular tourist destination. As in Scotland, after opening in 1994, the Waltzing Waters quickly became one of the most popular attractions on the island.

Millions of visitors from throughout the UK and Europe have now seen the shows. Many have come back multiple times testifying to the enduring popularity of this extraordinary art form.

Sandbed Street Project

Location

- Sandbed Street forms a natural triangle with Bank Street and Nelson Street.
- It is one of the oldest streets in Kilmarnock and is centrally located within the guidelines of the defined town centre.
- There is substantial history attached to Sandbed Street which could be cleverly used in its formation. (i.e. The Fleshings)
- It is adjacent to the Kilmarnock Water for its full length and falls within the National guidelines of opening up Town Centre Rivers.
- Sandbed Street would easily lend itself to pedestrianisation with pedestrian and emergency access to and from King Street via Sandbed Lane, Water Lane and Bridge Lane.
- Also has pedestrian access from Nelson Street via the "Timmer Brig".
- The top of Sandbed Street is accessed by crossing the ancient sandstone bridge at the top of the street, know as Old Bridge or Town Bridge.

Sandbed Street Project

Tourists Attraction

As a tourist attraction for Kilmarnock the author would propose the construction of a "Water, Light and Sound" Fountain

placed in the gap behind the northern bridge and viewed from the demolished retail premises on King Street as previously mentioned. Being fed and naturally powered by the Kilmarnock Water this would create an amazing entrance to the Sandbed and attract tourists just to see the fountain.

By creating a weir on the river at the south side of the Howard Park would create an area of relatively deep and still water promoting the increased used by aquaculture, fish and perhaps hiding the concrete covers of the new water mains.

More radically, this could allow the introduction of "punts" from the Howard Park into the Sandbed.

Another unique feature for Kilmarnock, attracting shoppers and tourists alike, while providing an exciting and pleasant place to live and work.

Sandbed Street Project

Rational

A common complaint of the empty shops in King Street is that they are either too large for small businesses, or, are not large enough for large Main Street players.

The rent and rates of these properties are the reason that a quantity of these shops remain regularly unused, that and the steady decline in shopper footfall.

The author would therefore suggest that through negotiation led by Kilmarnock Development Group (KDG) and agreement with the King Street property owners, that by releasing the rear portion and most likely the cellar portion of their properties for redevelopment, then Sandbed could become an area of small boutique shops and cafes, probably attracting no rates under the current NDR scheme and then proportionately, substantially reducing the rent and rates on King Street properties bringing them into full medium size use in the new Kilmarnock by new incoming retailers.

Sandbed Street Project

Creation of a new Sandbed Street

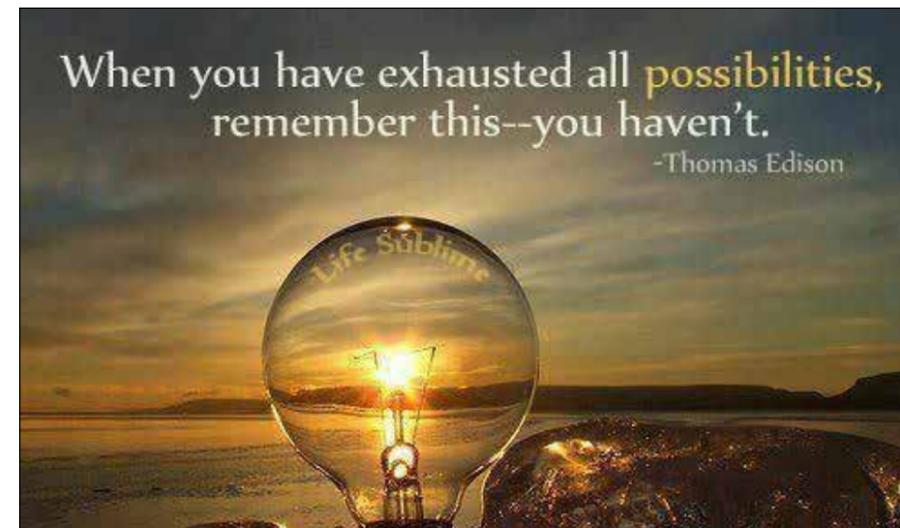
By the erection of a traditional and noticeable arch at either end of the street delineating its pedestrian status, would instantly identify this as an interesting place.
 The "Timmer Brig" would be "covered" and lit to create a more interesting image. The creation of a cobbled street with attractive street furniture, riverside cafes and small boutique shops in conjunction with a highly developed riverscape would provide a beautiful and relaxing commercial area in the very heart of the town.
 The development following alongside the river and as part of the Kilmarnock Trail, would create a natural drift leading to the Howard Park.
See Picture Ref:

Sandbed Street Project

Sandbed Street Bridge

Statement of Special Interest

- Sometimes referred to as the "Old Bridge" or "Town Bridge", Sandbed is the oldest bridge in Kilmarnock. It stands over the Kilmarnock Water and links Cheapside and Bank Street with the Sandbed (Street).
- When Timothy Pont visited Kilmarnock in 1612, he described its predecessor as "a faire stone bridge" but by 1658 Richard Franck thought it to be "wretchedly ancient". A new bridge followed and was repaired in 1753 after a devastating flood.
- This "new" bridge was constructed and it carried the main Glasgow Road through the town before King Street was opened up. It was also the venue for the town's market until the Flesh Market Bridge (on the site of the present Burn's Mall) was constructed in 1770.
- An enclosed bridge can be viewed to the NE, this carries King Street to The Cross and has a row of shops (formerly Victoria Place) on it. A sculpture of a swimmer and fish can be seen on the pavement of King Street marking the spot where the Kilmarnock Water passes beneath.



1808.....



2017.....



Sandbed Street Project

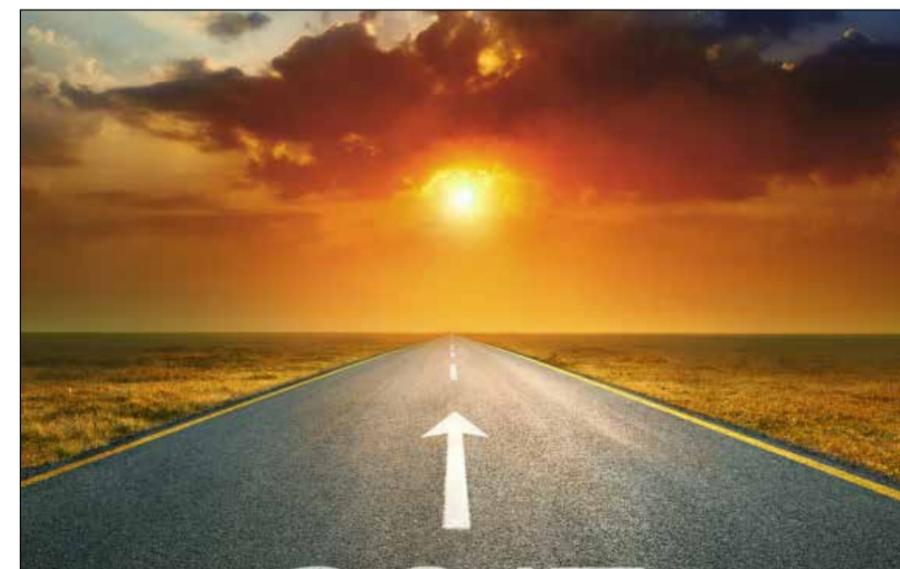
Kilmarnock Development Group Ref: KDG

- It is the authors consideration that to achieve the many bold and perhaps unusual projects in Kilmarnock and to reinstate some of the Towns former glory and to create an interesting and relaxing different format Town Centre. Realistically, Kilmarnock is not going to have a Shopping Mall or a Covered Dome such as Ayr, and therefore has to have the vision to create a very different offering to attract inbound, cash spending footfall.
- To manage and create projects of the scale and diversity required will require the focus of a single group led by a commercially orientated person who can deal with the shop & property owners and sell them the vision of a new Town Centre.
- KDG, a joint venture of East Ayrshire Council members and local Private Industry leaders (potentially local commercial Estate Agents)who can create an overall plan of action, negotiate support and financial assistance from outside sources and coordinate all stakeholders in the bigger project.



Sandbed Street Project

- The author of this report intends that it is only viewed as a stimulus to exploring ideas for the development of large volume tourist visitors to Kilmarnock.
- The purpose of this development ultimately is to regenerate areas of the town centre which are under used or vacant, and through an increase in footfall, provide increased employment and sustainable business opportunities.
- The author, Gordon Findlay retains all copyright to this work, all rights reserved.
- Copyright© Gordon Findlay July 2017 – All Rights Reserved



Kilmarnock Town Centre Study

KILMARNOCK

New Horizons:

Is this the “New” Sandbed Street?



Sandbed Street Project

Sandbed Street is in the very heart of Kilmarnock and one of the towns oldest streets, sandwiched for its full length between the Kilmarnock Water and King Street the main shopping street.

This is a much-neglected area of the town centre which is almost forgotten. Apart from its being infamous for being known as an area where drug addicts, shop thieves and other people with nefarious intent gather and create their unwanted mess.

The redevelopment and inclusion of Sandbed Street in the main town centre shopping offer is long overdue, and by clever and inventive change could become a very attractive and commercially viable addition the town centre. East Ayrshire Council have tidied the area by new attractive fencing and the inclusion of planters and street scape paintings.

By completing the magic triangle of the small and well noted shops of Bank Street and Nelson Street, those streets which in recent years were upgraded considerably by undergoing a multimillion pound installation of the cobble stones, slate slabs and street furniture as seen in the rest of the town centre and the upgrading to specific standard of shop fronts.

Kilmarnock’s Magic Triangle

Bank Street-Nelson Street-Sandbed Street

Kilmarnock’s Historic Town Centre

At the North end of Sandbed Street, adjacent to the Loudon Arms, the creation of an arch to delineate the entrance to a new area.

Should this be a recreated ancient entrance to the Town Bridge such as the image shown here, or, should this be a modern artists/architects interpretation of the historic background of this area.

Whichever, this would compliment the Waltzing Waters open are feature adjacent to the bridge.



C.3 - Kilmarnock & District History Group Comments

Comments Summary

Kilmarnock & District History Group

Demolition of Building at 25 – 31 King Street

- Opening views of Kilmarnock Water, Sandbed, Bank Street and New Laigh Kirk Steeple is an excellent proposal which will give a focus to the river which would have been the birthplace of the town of Kilmarnock.
- No Name Lane bounds the southern part of this site. No Name Lane is the last historic lane left in Kilmarnock and is immortalised in Robert Burns’ poem – ‘The Ordination’. Therefore it is important that the outline of the lane remains and can continue to be walked along. There should be an appropriate physical definition at its northern edge
- If possible 15 – 23 King Street should also be cleared (presently Killie Gold and Claires) to extend the site.
- This proposed open space is on Kilmarnock Town Trail for Schools route and also Kilmarnock Heritage Trail route. There are many historic buildings in this area, a heritage information board?
- Quality style surface extending to the river with seating where views could be enjoyed. The yard on the Sandbed at the rear of the site could hopefully be included too and a proper wall bounding the river constructed.
- It is envisaged that school pupils exploring Kilmarnock Town Trail would use this seated area as an outdoor classroom where they would complete activities on the Trail e.g. completing the symmetry exercise on the Sandbed Bridge.
- Vista – potentially outstanding looking across the Kilmarnock Water - but it is important that the rear of the properties on Bank Street, which would become highly visible, were tidied and improved. One particular problem is large amounts of the evasive plant Buddleia growing out of these buildings.
- A small coffee kiosk - possibly mobile - to attract shoppers and office workers and visitors to the town.
- A concern is if the bus station becomes enclosed and seating is removed from Foregate Square then the antisocial behaviour and groups that congregate are displaced to this open area.
- After dark – concerns as above, a presence is required to attract evening footfall such as an evening café or pub nearby on King Street. Use of the former BHS store as a community hub may be worth consideration to attract groups into King Street in the evenings.

Foregate

- Proposed improvements are cosmetic and do not tackle underlying problems in this area. Consider a more drastic solution.
- The Foregate should be demolished from beyond the former Royal Bank of Scotland at the Cross to the Square of Ales at the Clydesdale Bank. The area is dated, devoid of footfall, unattractive.
- If demolished shops / business can be relocated to empty units around the Cross, King Street and Portland Gate area, to encourage a look of full occupancy.
- The demolished area could be landscaped to open up an impressive open vista from the Cross to the Viaduct. As this was once the main thoroughfare from The Cross to the High Street, an outline similar to the proposal for No Name Lane could be considered, perhaps have a walk of fame theme displaying the proud history and heritage of the town, its industry and people.
- The adjacent multi storey car park could have new attractive facings on it.

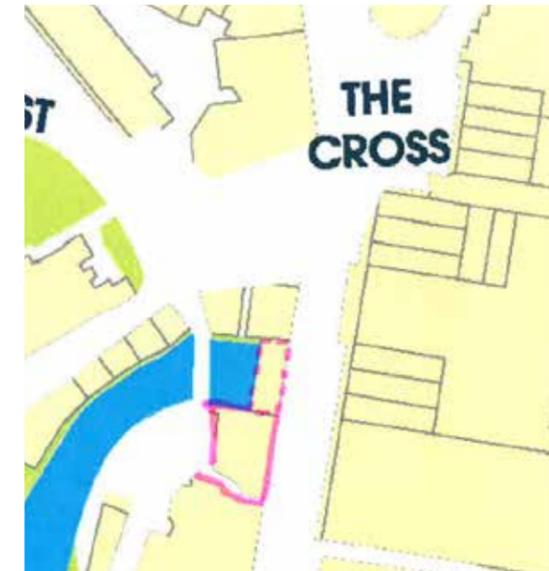
Bus station link

- Please consider the crossing from the bus station to London Road and the Palace Theatre. We would like to see the London Road underpass demolished and the road brought back to its original level, removing the concrete collar around the Palace Theatre. A view would be opened and a pedestrian crossing would be the access from London Road to both the bus station and the Burns Mall.

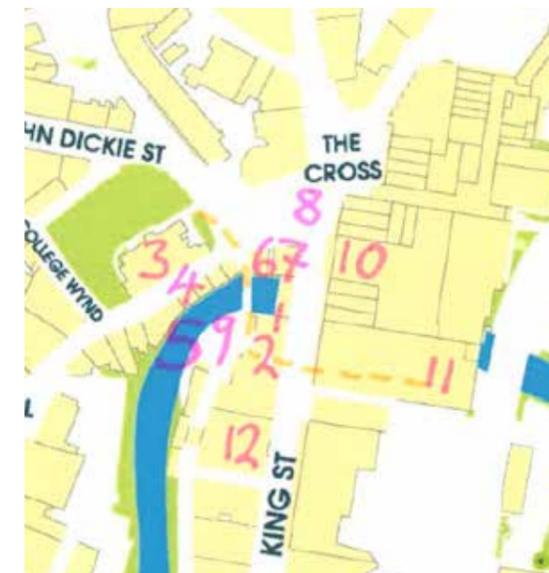
Map illustrated suggestions

- Map 1 shows the developed open space, this could be named ‘No name Tryst’, a Tryst being an old meeting place.
- Map two details historic sites close to the proposed open space that could be included on an information and interpretation board
- The paving along no name lane could be inscribed with the Burns Poem, as follows:

*Swith, to the Laigh Kirk, one and a’,
An there take up your stations,
Then aff tae Begbie’s in a raw,
To pour divine libations, For joy this day.*



Map 1



Map 2

Map 2 Key

1. Proposed cleared site (No Name Tryst) – once Lamont the Taylors, destroyed by fire and demolished early 1970s. Present vacant white tiled building is the replacement
2. No Name Lane
3. New Laigh Kirk
4. Bank Street
5. Kilmarnock Water
6. Town Jail
7. Site of original Johnnie Walker’s shop
8. Kilmarnock Cross and Tolbooth
9. Sandbed – Kilmarnock’s first thoroughfare
10. The Townhouse
11. Begbie’s
12. Lauders Emporium

Route that Robert Burns would take from the Laigh Kirk to Begbie’s (The Ordination)

D.1 Town Centre Work Packages

Work package	Title	Description	Proposal	Public Priority	Timescale		
					S	M	L
WP1	Aspirations requiring further work	All long-term and some medium term aspirations will require significant background work of a similar nature to determine suitability to progress to initial business case. Some proposals are dependent on the progress of others.	21 Upgrading the upper stories Foregate St.	✓			✓
			26 Improve access to the bus station through Foregate Square	✓✓✓			✓
			28 Potential future demolition of the Foregate Centre	✓✓✓			✓
			29 Shopfront Project to improve the continuity in shopfront design, John Finnie Street	✓✓✓		✓	
			30 Implement a green wall treatment on the multi-story and Burns Mall	✓✓			✓
			33 Negotiate selective demolition of buildings along King Street to create public open space	✓✓✓			✓
			37 Develop open space at the North End of Sandbed St and open up bridge aspect	✓✓		✓	
			38 Removal of the Pedestrian Bridge between buildings over Sandbed Street	✓✓			✓
			39 Opening up buildings towards the river (cafes etc.)	✓✓✓		✓	
			40 Remodelling of former BHS building	✓✓✓		✓	
WP2	Quick wins	Jobs which can be carried out quickly with minimal cost	1 Removal of the public toilet from Foregate Square	✓✓✓	✓		
			5 Cleaning the pedestrian bridge towards the multi-story carpark on Foregate St	✓	✓		

			6 Installing planters along the pedestrian bridge, Foregate St	✓	✓		
			7 Repainting concrete blades at the Foregate shops	✓✓✓	✓		
			8 Removal of glass overhangs from Foregate Street	✓✓	✓		
			9 Repainting steel panels Foregate Street	✓✓	✓		
			10 Repainting shop frontages in the Foregate area	✓✓	✓		
			41 Repair the wall at the embankment on John Finnie Street	✓✓	✓		
			15 Upgrading the façade of the Clydesdale Bank	✓✓		✓	
			16 Upgrade raised planters at the Clydesdale Bank	✓	✓		
			25 Use vacant shop fronts for displays of artwork to improve the Foregate streetscape	✓✓✓	✓		
WP3	pedestrian and vehicle interfaces	Alterations or improvements to roads footpaths, pedestrian areas and associated signage	2 Removal of the taxis from Foregate Square by relocating the taxi rank and restricting access to the Square for blue badge holders only	✓✓✓		✓	
			12 Improve multi story car park security and replace security access doors to the car park stair wells	✓✓✓	✓		
			14 Bollards to control delivery access to Foregate street	✓✓	✓		
			18 Rearrange bollards and traffic control infrastructure to restrict the impact of vehicles on the Foregate	✓		✓	
			19 Upgrade the signage for the bus station and Burns Mall	✓		✓	
			35 Reduce the volume of street signage and assimilate signs into a reduced number of combined posts	✓	✓		
			36 Replace the existing tarmac surface with a fanned sett surface to improve the heritage aspects of the Sandbed Street corridor	✓		✓	

			42 Footpath improvements, John Finnie Street	✓✓✓	✓		
			45 Re-bedding of existing kerbs in John Finnie Street	✓	✓		
			50 Upgrade walkways and kerbs in the shopping area extension	✓✓✓	✓		
			57 Review car parking strategy to improve pedestrian priority circulation	✓✓		✓	
			58 Coordinate the use of vehicular signage to declutter the road corridors and enhance pedestrian priority throughout the entire expanse of the shopping core	✓			✓
			59 Purchase of derelict buildings within John Finnie Street	✓✓			✓
WP4	Street furniture	Alterations or improvements to streetscape	3 Reduce the number of seats in Foregate Square to discourage loitering and antisocial behaviour	✓✓✓	✓		
			4 Replace street furniture and signage to a more modern design in the Foregate area	✓✓		✓	
			17 Improve the layout of the public space in the Foregate and Foregate Square	✓✓✓	✓		
			34 Repainting or removing galvanised street furniture on Nelson St	✓	✓		
			46 Replace street furniture in John Finnie Street to a more modern design	✓	✓		
			55 New features for the triangle at the south entry of John Finnie Street	✓		✓	
			22 Installation of central red granite strip within the Foregate	✓		✓	
WP5	Public Art	Installation or alteration of permanent public art	23 Restoration of the vane features on the Foregate carpark facade	✓		✓	
			27 Relocation of the Shona Kinloch statue in the Foregate Square to be more central and prominent	✓		✓	
			44 Provide two locations for artwork on the angled grass area of the embankment on John Finnie Street	✓		✓	

			49 Extend public art installations into the shopping area extension	✓✓	✓		
			54 Positioning of public art in the shopping area	✓		✓	
WP6	Lighting	Improvements the quality and replacement of defective or unsuitable lighting	11 Replace soffit lighting in Foregate Street	✓✓	✓		
			13 Replace existing street lighting with wall mounted LED's in Foregate Street	✓✓	✓		
			20 Feature lighting proposal for Foregate Street such as Ashton Lane in Glasgow	✓✓	✓		
			24 Installation of fixings and supply circuitry for seasonal feature lighting	✓		✓	
			47 Review of the amount of necessary street lighting in the shopping area – replace street lighting columns with fewer brighter and more energy efficient LED units	✓✓	✓		
WP7	Building restoration	Development of schemes to support the restoration and improvement of shops and housing	48 Removal of vegetation from buildings in the shopping area	✓✓✓	✓		
			53 Restoration project for vacant properties	✓✓✓		✓	
			52 Grant aided shop front improvements program in the shopping area	✓✓✓		✓	
			51 Liaise with property owners in the shopping area to foster first floor occupation	✓✓✓	✓		
			32 Improve the attractiveness of No Name Lane	✓✓	✓		
WP8	Landscape	Improving green areas	31 Clean out the river bed and the river banks and engage with the Wildlife Trust	✓✓✓	✓		
			43 Eradication of Japanese Knotweed on the Embankment on John Finnie Street	✓✓✓		✓	