

Manor Royal Arts and Heritage Trail: Phase 2, Concept designs for potential micro parks

Applying our stories to improve our business district

February 2020





The Manor Royal BID would like to acknowledge the support of the following people and organisations without whom this project would not have been possible.



ALLEN SCOTT
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

We would also like to acknowledge the valued support of the many businesses and people who engaged with the project to help create these concept designs

Manor Royal Arts and Heritage Trail:
Phase 2, Concept Designs
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our business district

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Woolborough Lane
Manor Royal Central
Manor Royal West





Background

In summer 2019 an application was made to Arts Council England to initiate an arts and heritage trail programme to enhance the Manor Royal Business District.

The successful application enabled the BID to engage Richard Wolfstrome to capture the stories and history of the Manor Royal Business District from the perspective of the businesses and people that have helped to make it using a variety of research and engagement techniques. This work was supported by the BID and Allen Scott.

The intent is to use this research and narrative harvesting to inspire a district-wide trail of micro-parks to form a network of improved facilities, seating, outdoor meeting spaces, public realm, wayfaring which will bring a stronger sense of place through interventions that are creative, educational, surprising, informative and artistic, bringing a sense of local ownership.

The outcome from this process is articulated in the Manor Royal Trail Strategy report which should be read in conjunction with this concept design report.

Purpose of this report

This concept report provides a summary of the analysis, planning and concept design process and its outcomes. It is intended to help guide the next steps for the project (Phase 2).

The report provides high level site analysis that has informed the design principles and concepts. It also provides conceptual visualisations of what the micro parks may look like using computer generated 3D designs. These are for illustrative purposes only.

The report does not provide a finished designs for each of the proposed sites, but does aim to demonstrate the potential for them and set the aspirations that have come directly from the analysis, the research, the narrative and further stakeholders engagement.

This report is also intended to help define site specific design briefs for the potential public artists.

The concept designs for each of the sites have been developed simultaneously in association with the BID, Richard Wolfstrome and members of the MR community.

Locations

The locations of the micro-parks and trails have been informed by the Projects Pack 2018- 2023, Superhub Bus Stop Feasibility report and the Manor Royal Art and Heritage Trail narrative.

They are all located within the public realm of Manor Royal. Although publicly accessible, one site falls, within private land (Fleming Way).

The micro park locations are dispersed around the Manor Royal district. The micro parks vary in size and shape and are therefore likely to require different budgets which respond accordingly.

There is quite clearly a circular trail route, joining each of the micro-park sites. Subsidiary wayfaring trails might also be considered through Crawler’s Brook and along the roads. These are not shown in this report at this stage.



Metcalf Way / County Oak

in-between places



Fleming Way

in-between places



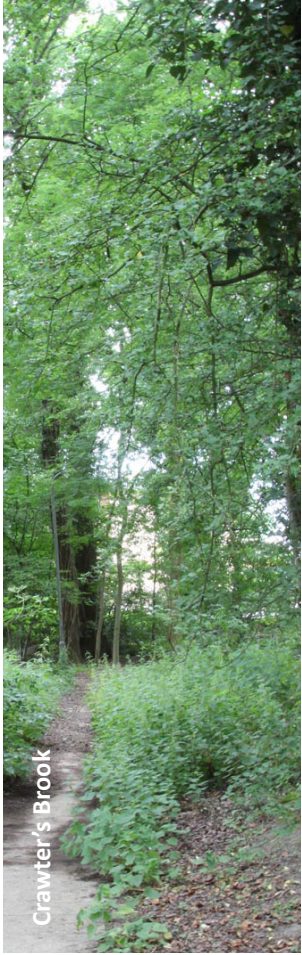
Rutherford Way / Gatwick Road

in-between places



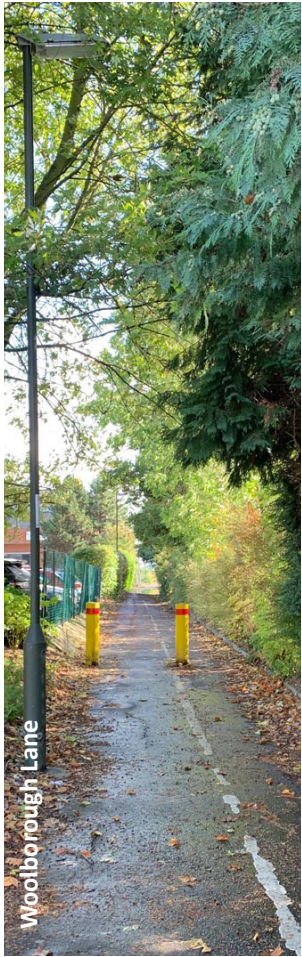
Priestley Way / Rutherford Way

in-between places



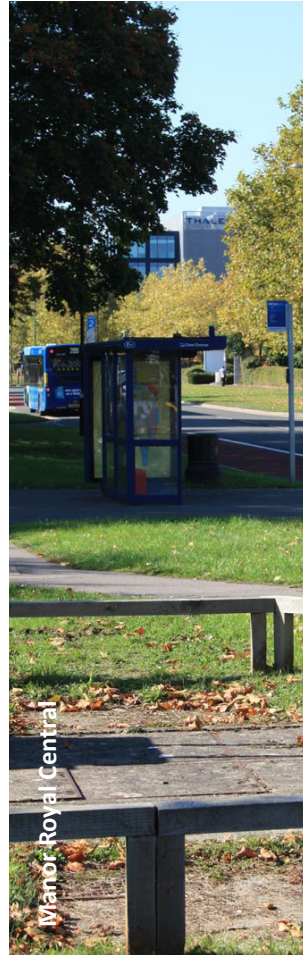
Crawter's Brook

in-between places



Woolborough Lane

in-between places



Manor Royal Central

in-between places



Manor Royal West





THE
TERRACE


MANOR ROYAL
BUSINESS DISTRICT

Intention and objectives:

The intention of this project is to give the Manor Royal community and its visitors a greater sense of place by creating a trail of locally distinctive micro parks across the business district.

Places that will give people that work at Manor Royal and visitors an opportunity to be in the outdoors – to sit and have meetings, to relax, to socialise, to experience the outside and engage with public art, and to learn more about the history and the people of Manor Royal.

Although each site will be treated as an individual space, each will be designed and considered to be one part of the overall scheme, so will have continuity and congruence with each of the other locations and interventions.

Each site will provide an opportunity for an artist to respond directly to the nature, heritage and use of the site to deliver a surprising and informative narrative.

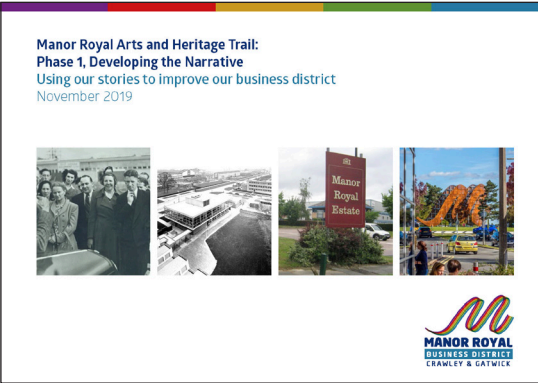
Project context:

BID VISION

“The vision is for Manor Royal to be widely regarded as the place where companies and people choose to be for the strength of its business community and the quality of its trading and working environment.”

STRATEGIC BID OBJECTIVES

- PROMOTE AND INFLUENCE
- TRADE AND SAVE
- INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES
- MANAGE AND MAINTAIN



PROJECTS PACK KEY AIMS

- STRENGTHEN THE IDENTITY OF MANOR ROYAL THROUGH JOINED UP THINKING
- PROVIDE PUBLIC PLACES FOR THE COMMUNITY OF MANOR ROYAL
- ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO WALK AND CYCLE ACROSS MANOR ROYAL
- KEEP MANOR ROYAL’S ENVIRONMENT GREEN, CLEAN AND WELL LOVED
- ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT FROM OTHERS
- IMPROVE BUSINESS SATISFACTION AND ECONOMIC FUNCTION OF MANOR ROYAL

WAYS (STRATEGIES) TO DELIVER THIS BY 2023

- COMPLETE THE GATEWAY PROJECTS
- CREATE MORE USABLE PUBLIC PARKS AND PLACES FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY
- IMPROVE WALKING AND CYCLING ROUTES AND CONNECT THESE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS
- ENHANCE QUALITY OF ROADS AND FOOTPATHS
- HAVE MORE CONSISTENCY IN STREET FURNITURE
- + ENHANCE LEVELS OF MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF MANOR ROYAL’S PUBLIC REALM

RECENT / ONGOING PROJECTS



FURNITURE STRATEGY PRINCIPLES



THE KEY OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT INCLUDE:

- To create high quality, contemporary design.
- To create distinctiveness and uniqueness through public art and wayfaring connecting trails.
- To guide and connect people through the business district.

- To encourage more use of the outdoor public realm and to bring a greater a sense of wellbeing.
- To propose imaginative, inventive design, sympathetic to the built environment.
- To develop art and design that distinguishes the district and provides distinct key features.

- To establish routes, intersections, trails, connections and natural meeting points which will add to the cultural identity of Manor Royal.
- To embody place ambitions for the present and the future, as well as resonating with the past.

- To engage with as many voices as we can to help develop the Manor Royal narrative and to help inform the direction and briefs for the artists and their interventions.

Overarching Design Principles

To help deliver the Project’s objectives, the micro park concept designs have been prepared based on the following project specific overarching design principles:



PLACE RELEVANT

RESPONDING TO AND TRANSFORMING EACH SITE WITH DISTINCTIVE AND MEANINGFUL PLACES IN CONSIDERATION OF THE WHOLE OF THE MANOR ROYAL ITS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

PEOPLE FOCUSSED

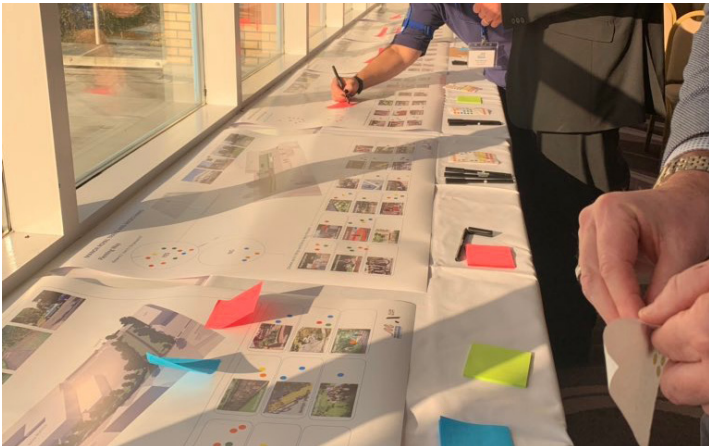
ENABLING IMPROVED HEALTH, WELL BEING AND SOCIABILITY OF THE PRESENT AND FUTURE MANOR ROYAL COMMUNITY, WHILST ACKNOWLEDGING AND CELEBRATING ITS PAST.

NARRATIVE DRIVEN

HELPING TELL THE MANOR ROYAL STORY THROUGH PLACE SPECIFIC PUBIC ART THAT DIRECTLY CONNECTS THE COMMUNITY TO ITS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE .

What this will look like:

- Places to sit, socialise and soak up the sun
- Improved footpaths and cycleways
- Improved lighting
- More trees and areas of planting
- Better ways to manage surface water management
- Using robust and maintainable materials
- Manor Royal specific street furniture such as benches, seats and tables
- Integrated public artwork that’s specific to each site and the Manor Royal story
- Activated spaces with more people having fun, enjoying and participating in using the public realm
- More people connecting with their environment and understanding its past
- A richer mix of biodiversity across Manor Royal
- More people learning more about the past, present and future of Manor Royal



The following concept designs are intended to inform the briefs that will go to the artists working on the public art element to this project. The concept designs provide a sense of what the ‘canvas’ might be for the artists to work with.

The concept designs are also intended to be used in further consultation with the various stakeholders, including the Manor Royal community, to help demonstrate what could be achieved at each of the site’s subject to further design, planning permissions and available budgets.

Each of the concept designs will need further design development before they are ready to submit for planning permission. Ahead of this, outline budgets will be prepared based on these concept design layout and the indicative materials shown.

It is unclear at this stage if all of the micro parks will be taken forward at the same time. Some of the concept design will rely on other projects being aligned, such as those sites that are also Superhub Bus Stops.

However, the intention is to develop these concept designs in association with the appointed artists and working with the local community and stakeholders to ensure they are fit for purpose.



Some photos of what stakeholders told us at the Manor Royal Matters conference in November 2019 and the Manor Royal People’s conference in January 2020.

“Manor Royal is like a town of business populated by thousands of people who are making things, fixing things, selling things, fixing people, feeding people, training people and even saving people.

This project aims to provide new facilities that these people deserve and to act as a celebration of their efforts and the efforts of those who gone before them.”

Steve Sawyer
Executive Director