

Metcalfe Way / County Oak Way



Location:

The site is formed of 2 sections of footpath located between Metcalfe Way and County Oak Way, situated along bridleway 1525_1.

The site is the pedestrian and cycle link between Metcalfe Way and County Oak Way. The site is well used as a cut through between these two roads and has an existing footpath, vegetation and traveller defence grass mounds and bollards at either end.

The site is within Manor Royal Zone 1 (yellow)

The site also forms part of Bridleway 1525_1 connecting Country Oak Way to Langley Green.

Site Features:

- The site forms part of a bridleway that follows 110m of County Oak Way and follows a footpath 98m to Metcalfe Way and continues on to Langley Green;
- Grass bunds 0.7m high and yellow bollards are situated either end of the site aimed to stop vehicles entering the site;
- The existing tarmac path is 98m long and varies in width from 1.8m at the entrances to 2.6m;
- The grass margin either side of the path is between 2.5-5m wide and finishes at a drainage ditch on either side of the site and is 1.0-1.5m deep;
- At the Metcalfe Way entrance there is a section of brick wall protecting the fall into the drainage ditch, a Manor Royal monolith next to a telegraph pole;
- Towards Metcalfe Way is a litter and dog waste bins; and
- The site includes the area of footpath and adjoining drainage ditch / vegetation along County Oak Way.

Considerations:

- Creating areas for public seating and informal gatherings;
- Providing spaces that encourage informal sports, play and activity for the local business community;
- Travellers and vehicle defence;
- Accessibility to adjoining properties / businesses;
- Bridle way and cycle way connections;
- Drainage;
- Existing vegetation and ecology; and
- All works within highway land will need to be agreed with WSCC, likely through a Section 278 agreement depending on the nature of the works

Associated business areas:

- County Oak Retail Park
- Charlwood Court
- Merlin Centre
- Basepoint Business Centre
- Enterprise Court



Bollards, signs and grass bunds form the County Oak Way entrance



Existing trees, scrub and drainage ditches form the boundaries

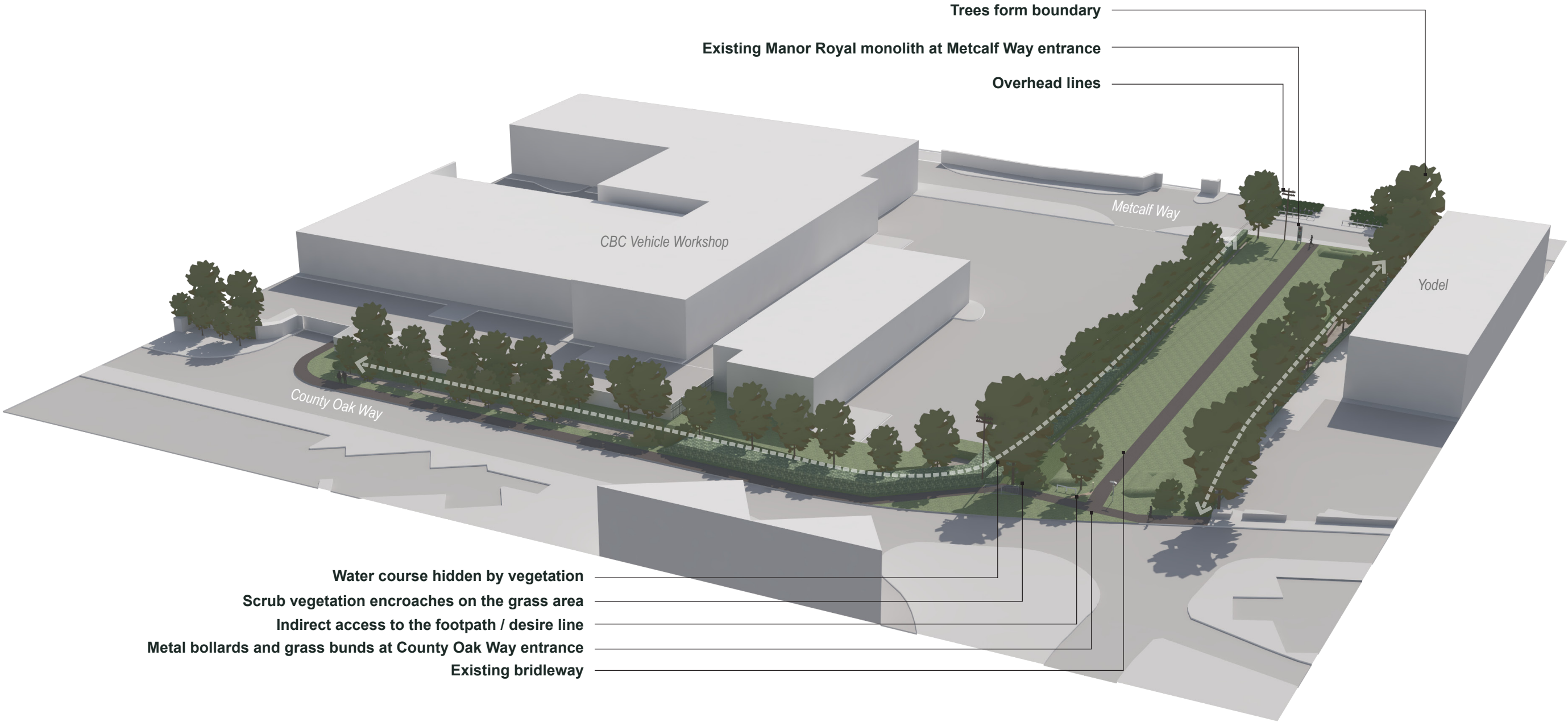


A mixture of materials create a muddled entrance along County Oak Way



Car parking limits the visibility of the entrance along Metcalfe Way

Metcalf Way / County Oak Way - existing site



Metcalf Way / County Oak Way

Design Intent:

‘A distinctive *art-scape* corridor to sit, socialise and soak up the sun’.

The connection between Metcalf Way and County Oak Way already provides a useful off road pedestrian / cycle / bridle way link and forms part of a wider network of off road green links and drainage corridors.

The intent is to create a series of connected and distinctive areas for seating and meeting, whilst maintaining the direct path / link between Metcalf Way and County Oak Way.

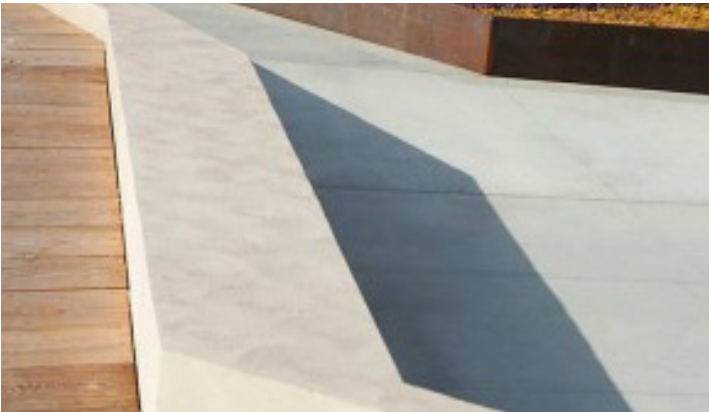
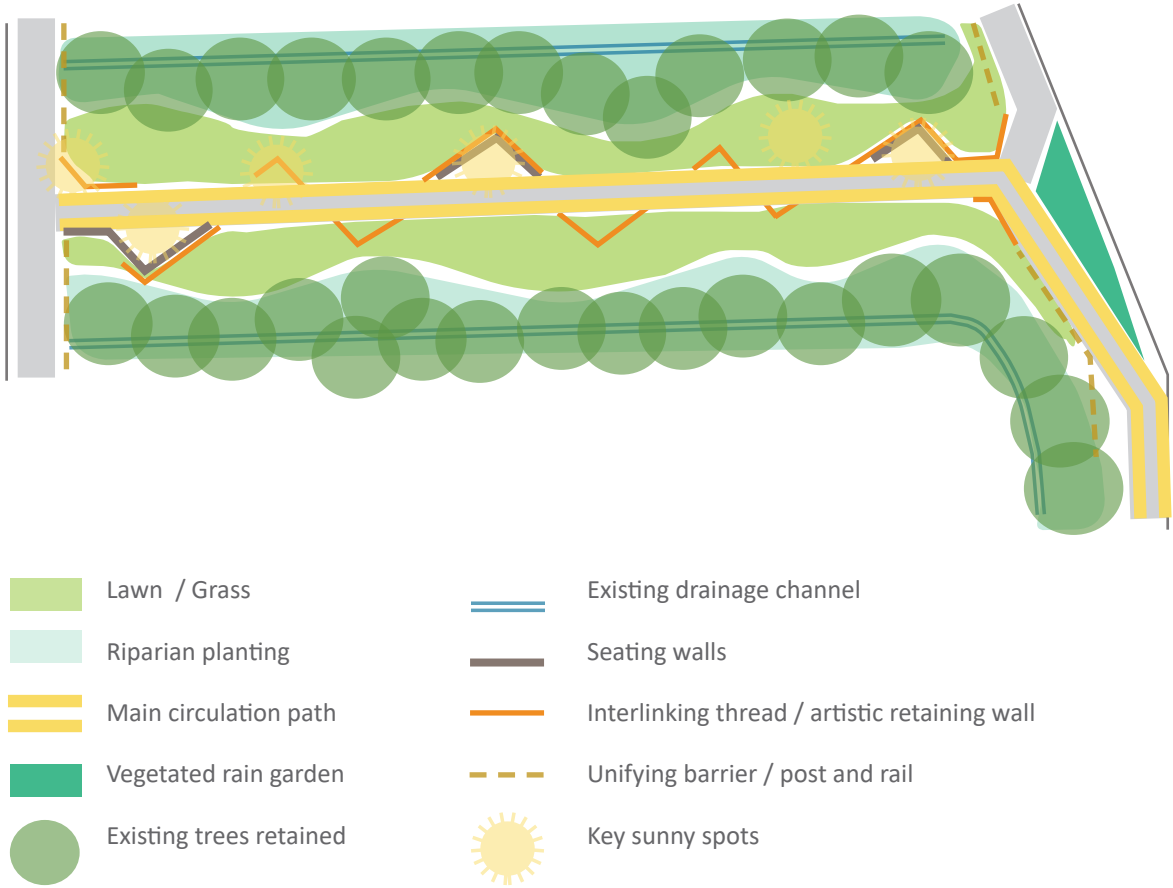
There will be a reduction in visual clutter of existing furniture such as unsightly bollards, traveller defence grass bunds and the mixture of different fences.

The drainage channels will enhanced through clearance of invasive weeds and planting native vegetation along its edges.

Strategically placed ‘artistic’ retaining walls and incidental seating walls will create attractive and useful spaces to sit, socialise and / or just soak up the sun.

The position, angle and rhythm of the spaces transform the whole corridor into a sculptural and distinctive land form. The park becomes the art. But also provides opportunity for further public art intervention such as stories, patterns and textures applied to the retaining walls and incidental seating.

The edges provide opportunity for more environmental based public art that could help better connect the community to their local environment and perhaps climate adaptation innovation and action.



Metcalf Way / County Oak Way - emerging concept

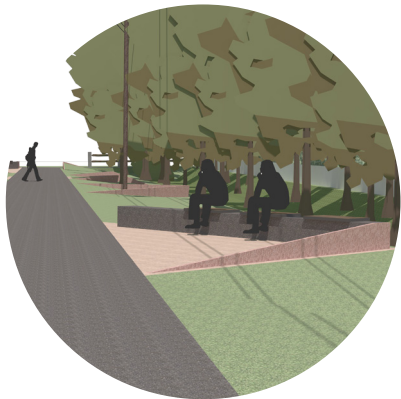
Improved entrance
path to reflect
pedestrian desire line

Replacement of vehicle
defence bunds with
angular 'artistic' retaining
walls and seating

Interlinking 'artistic'
thread to create a
sense of meandering
through the corridor

Areas of seating for socialising
or soaking up the sun

Replacement of vehicle defence
bunds with angular 'artistic'
retaining walls and seating



Chestnut cleft post
and rail to replace
mixture of existing
railing close to
drainage channel



Replacement of vehicle defence bunds
with angular corten retaining walls



Raised lawns

Chestnut cleft post
and rail to replace
mixture of existing
railing close to
drainage channel