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**Report by:** Head of Policy and Projects  
**To:** West/Central Area Committee 30 October 2008  
**Wards:** Castle, Newnham and Market

**Environmental Improvements Programme**

**1. DECISION TO BE MADE: -**

***Auckland Road / Parsonage Street footpath resurfacing and lighting renewal***

***Decision:*** To approve implementation of the attached amended scheme which does not widen the path and is in accordance with the provisions of the Commons Act 2006.

***Environmental Improvement Projects priority and Lead Councillor allocation***

***Decision:*** Prioritise EI schemes and nominate a Lead Councillor to each project.

***New mobility crossings in Mount Pleasant area***

***Decision:*** Agree to 2 pairs and 1 single new mobility crossing at Mount Pleasant House at an estimated cost of £5,000.

**2. BUDGET**

See over.

<b>WEST/CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS 2008/2009</b>		
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Budget for 2008/2009 financial year	£89,700	
Add roll-over from 2007/2008 budget	£146,620	
<b>TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2008/2009 FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b>£236,320</b>
Minus Actual 08/09 Budget Spend to end Sep 2008		-£2,094
<b>Committed Projects</b>	<b>Estimated Reserved Cost £</b>	
Auckland Road/Parsonage St paving and lighting	£22,000	
Lammas Land cycle parking	£2,350	
Contribution towards Burleigh/Fitzroy Phase 3 refurbishment	£50,000	
Pinch point removal	£500	
Elizabeth Way underpass re-planting costs	£7,250	
Marlow Road/Eltisley Avenue yellow lining	£1,100	
Parker's Piece and Queen's Green tree planting	£11,500	
Lammas Land Pavilion rebuild (architects fees)	£2,000	
<b>Minus Committed project budgets</b>		<b>-£96,700</b>
<b>BALANCE OF 08/09 BUDGET as at 14 October 2008</b>		<b>£137,526</b>
<b>Projects agreed by Ctte to be investigated, but no budget committed. Costs shown are estimated and will depend on detailed design and site investigation</b>	<b>Estimated Cost £</b>	
Canterbury Street traffic calming	£100,000	
Wall adjacent to the Student Union, Park Street	£15,000	
Manor Place cycle racks	£2,500	
Lammas Land Pavilion rebuild	£20,000	
Histon Road recreation ground planting	£1,000	
Mud Lane lighting	£5,000	
Round Church grounds	£7,500	
Mobility Crossings allowance	£2,000	
Pinch Point Removal allowance	£7,500	
<b>Estimated costs for projects under investigation</b>	<b>£160,500</b>	
<b>N.B.</b> The estimated costs shown above are merely given as a rough guide until the projects can be designed and costed.		

### **3 APPROVED SCHEMES – PROGRESS**

#### **3.1 Elizabeth Way Underpass**

Replanting to be carried out in the autumn.

#### **3.2 Lammas Land Cycle Parking**

Design for cycle parking is complete and expected to be implemented in November.

#### **3.3 Histon Road Recreation Ground Replanting Mound**

Planting design has been produced which is being discussed with the Arboricultural Team and Streetscene prior to consultation with the neighbouring landowner.

#### **3.4 Manor Street / King Street Cycle Parking**

Installation of wall mount cycle racks or a rail. We are in consultation with the landowner Jesus College and with King Street Housing and we are awaiting a response from Bidwells who are acting as agents for Jesus College.

#### **3.5 Round Church Street**

Recycling bins adjacent to Cambridge Union Society wall is unsightly and wall is in need of repair.

Officers have contacted the Union Society and waste management and have been able to get bins removed from the street. The Union Society are investigating the cost of the repairs to the wall.

#### **3.6 Round Church grounds**

Christian Heritage is carrying out research and will put forward proposals for the minor repairs to be carried out in the grounds of the Round Church. They will put forward suppliers, craftsmen and costs in due course.

#### **3.7 Marlowe Road and Eltisley Avenue junction**

County Highways have been contacted regarding a Traffic Road Order for the yellow lining of this junction. A precise lining drawing is required to accompany request for TRO. Drawing can be produced shortly.

#### **3.8 Lammas Land pavilion**

Following initial public consultation in the summer, some initial ideas are being drawn up for full public consultation later in the

autumn. The results of the consultation can be reported to Committee in January 2009.

### **3.9 Canterbury Street traffic calming**

Possible design solutions are being investigated.

### **3.10 Oxford Road additional traffic calming**

Officers were asked at the previous committee meeting to investigate additional traffic calming in Oxford Road. Investigation work has recently been started but with no firm outcome to report as yet.

### **3.11 Tree Planting on Parker's Piece and Queen's Green**

A proposal was agreed in September by Committee to carry out new tree planting on the north-eastern boundary of Parker's Piece and also within Queen's Green. An informative has been sent to all amenity societies and groups in the area as well as colleges and resident's groups with an possible interest in the project.

Planting is due to take place this planting season.

## **4 APPROVED SCHEMES REQUIRING DECISIONS**

### **4.1 Auckland Road / Parsonage Street footpath resurfacing and lighting renewal**

Public consultation was carried out and closed on 15 September 2008. The analysis of the consultation is appended to this report

The result of the consultation was very close with 55% in favour. The most frequent comment accompanying an objection was regarding the width of the footpath increasing and encroaching into the grassed area.

If the Committee wish to proceed with this project, we could take on board this comment by omitting the only area where an increased width occurred which was at the base of the steps to Brunswick Cottages (an area of 0.3 x 6.5m). It was the intention to increase the path width only at this point and to replace the majority of it to exactly the same width as existing.

It should be noted that the existing construction of the footpath is insitu concrete panels with varying widths of between 1.6 and 1.9m along its length, with the narrowest point at the Auckland Road end. However for ease of the new construction, which would be a continuous footpath, the width could be specified at

1.7m for 75m narrowing to 1.6m for 25m where it meets Auckland Road. This would give an overall gain in grassed area.

Officers are at present enquiring as to whether this project requires a licence to carry out work to change the surface material of an existing path on common land in accordance with the Commons Act 2006, Section 38. Work would not be started unless and until this issue is defined.

An amended scheme drawing is appended.

***Recommendation:*** *The Committee are asked to decide on implementation of the resurfacing works to the path and renewal of the lighting provided that the area of increased width is omitted and that work is in accordance with the Commons Act 2006.*

***Decision:*** *To approve implementation of the attached amended scheme which does not widen the path and is in accordance with the provisions of the Commons Act 2006.*

#### **4.3 Environmental Improvement Projects priority**

**Priority and Lead Councillor allocation** - In view of continued staff shortages, (which are being addressed urgently), Area Committees are asked to review their list of approved schemes being investigated (see below) to prioritise which schemes Committee would like Officers to concentrate on first. This will permit staff resources to be deployed to best effect. An indication of status and a recommendation for priority is given in brackets and order.

Officer would also ask that a Project Lead Councillor be nominated to each project.

1. Lammas Land cycle parking (ready to implement).
2. Path between Auckland Road and Parsonage Street (being consulted on and ready to implement).
3. Marlow Road/Eltisley Avenue (implementation to be carried out on publication of TRO).
4. Lammas Land Pavilion (detailed sketch design and consultation to be implemented).
5. Canterbury Street traffic calming (more detailed ideas to be worked up and discussed with County Highways and residents).
6. Cycle racks at Manor Street / King Street (awaiting landowner comments)

7. Bins behind Student Union, Round Church Street (awaiting operator comments)
8. Histon Road Recreation Ground planting (to be checked)

#### **Schemes ready to implement by others**

- Elizabeth Way underpass planting (Streetscene to complete scheme)
- Round Church grounds (Christian Heritage to put forward proposals and implement scheme)
- Tree planting on Parker's Piece and Queens Green

**Recommendation** : *Officers recommend that Committee review their list of approved schemes and prioritise and nominate a Lead Councillor to each project.*

**Decision**: *Prioritise EI schemes and nominate a Lead Councillor to each project.*

#### **4.4 New Mobility Crossing at Mount Pleasant**

Two pairs and one single mobility crossing have been requested by a disabled users who needs to cross the entrance to Mount Pleasant House and two other crossings in the area to access the bus route on Castle Hill. The estimated cost of the mobility crossings are £5,000. The gradient of the ramps will not exceed those required by County Highways and the DDA. The proposal has been sent to County Highways for their approval and their initial reaction is favourable.

**Recommendation**: *Officers recommend that Committee agree to the construction of two pairs and one single mobility crossing as soon as County Highways have approved the proposal.*

**Decision**: *Agree to two pairs and one single mobility crossing in the Mount Pleasant area at an estimated cost of £5,000.*

#### **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

#### **7. IMPLICATIONS**

- a) **Staffing Implications**: Staff resources will result in only a limited amount of progress on Environmental Improvement projects in the near future.

- b) **Equal Opportunities Implications:** These are taken into account on individual schemes.
- c) **Environmental Implications:** All of the projects seek to bring about an improvement in the local environment.
- d) **Community Safety:** This has been included as one of the assessment criteria agreed by Committee and is considered on each project.

## 8. INSPECTION OF PAPERS

To inspect or query the background paperwork or report, please contact,  
Dinah Foley-Norman, Principal Landscape Architect  
**Telephone:** 01223 - 457134  
**Email:** [Dinah.foley-norman@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:Dinah.foley-norman@cambridge.gov.uk)

## APPENDIX 1

### Auckland Road – Parsonage Street Footway Improvements and Lighting Consultation

The public consultation exercise asked local residents on Brunswick Walk, North Terrace, Brunswick Cottages, Brunswick Walk, Bailey Mews, Midsummer Limes, lower ends of Parsonage Street, Auckland Road as well as Residents Associations and local interest groups<sup>1</sup> to comment on the proposals for upgrading the path and lighting.

Period in which people could respond: 10<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

#### 1 Consultation Questionnaire Responses

Number of consultation documents delivered: 70

Number of consultation documents returned: 11 (16%)

The results are as follows;

	<b>Number of Households</b>	<b>Percentage of responses</b>
<i>Support</i>	6	55%
<i>Oppose</i>	5	45%
<i>Unsure</i>	0	0%

#### 2 Consultation Comments

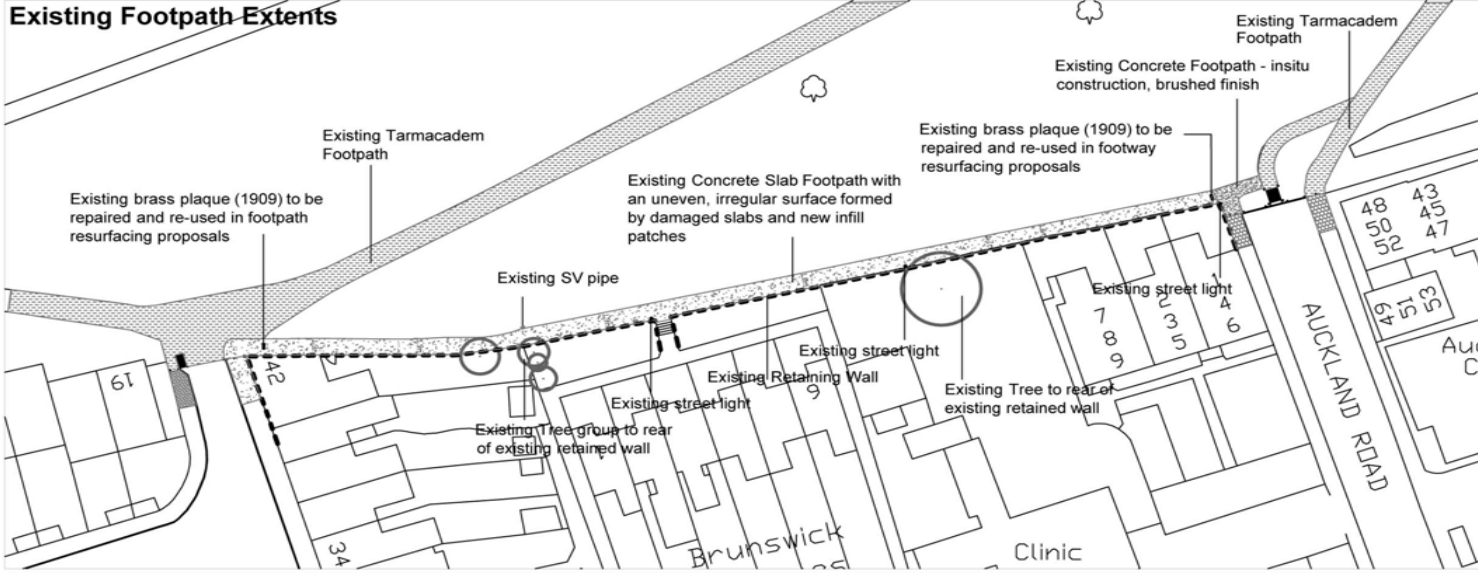
- 2.1 No consistent observation/remarks were evident in the comments received. However the most frequent comment accompanying an objection was regarding the width of the footpath increasing and encroaching into the grassed area.

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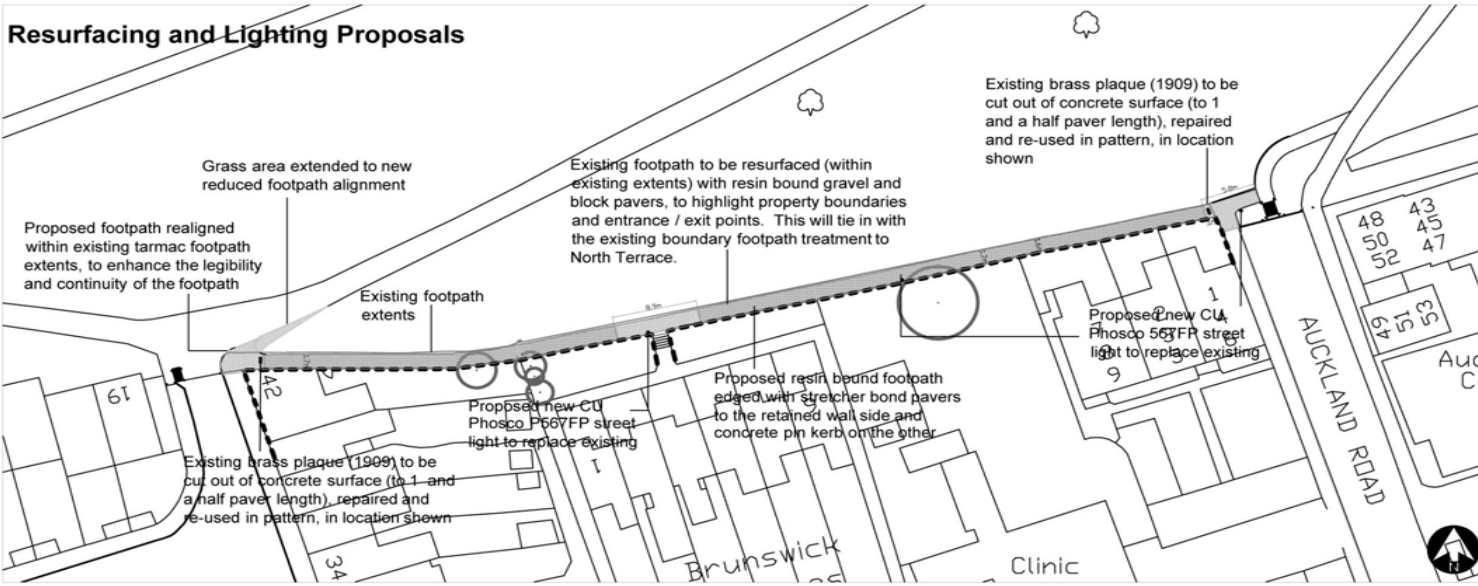
<sup>1</sup> Chair of Brunswick and North Kite Residents Association  
Honorary Secretary, Friends of Midsummer Common  
Chair Friends of Midsummer Common  
Honorary Treasury, Friends of Midsummer Common



### Existing Footpath Extents



### Resurfacing and Lighting Proposals



Revision	Date	By	Details

	Job Ref / DWG.No	Revision
	EIP 020_118_02	
Scale	By:	Date
1:500@A3	JAJ	Oct 08

**ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS**  
 Simon Payne, Director of Environment and Planning  
 CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL  
 The Guildhall Cambridge CB2 3QJ  
 Tel: 01223 - 457200 or 457201

**Project:** Auckland Rd - Parsonage St Footpath (Midsummer Common)

**Drawing:** Footpath Resurfacing proposals

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