#### **BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

#### CITIZEN'S ADVISORY PANEL - 23rd MAY 2024

#### <u>Item 7 – Revenue Savings Project 2024/2025 and Ongoing</u>

#### Purpose

To consider and comment on proposals for both one-off savings in 2024/2025 and ongoing savings, to ensure the Town Council focusses its activity and spending on its key priorities and objectives given the current financial constraints and future financial uncertainties.

#### Background

Braunstone Town Council is considering options for reducing expenditure in 2024/2025 and in future years, to ensure the Council focusses its activity and spending on its key priorities and objectives given the current financial constraints and future financial uncertainties.

The Town Council is inviting residents, stakeholders, and the Citizens' Advisory Panel to have their say on the proposals and to identify other areas for consideration.

The one-off and ongoing annual revenue savings detailed in Tables 1 and 2 respectively have been published on the Council's website with details of how residents and customers can make comments and/or further suggestions. A link to the information about the savings and the ability to comment will also be shared on the Council's social media and on notice boards.

The Consultation runs until 9am on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024. Residents and stakeholders can submit their comments in writing to Chief Executive and Town Clerk.

Policy & Resources Committee will consider consultation responses at its meeting scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and determine any further proposals.

#### Action Requested

The Panel is asked to consider whether it:

- agrees with the one-off savings identified in Table 1? The projects identified will be postponed for one year.
- agrees with the ongoing revenue savings identified in Table 2? The initial cost is one-off. The savings identified will be delivered annually.
- has any other suggestions for either one-off or ongoing savings the Town Council could consider?

### One-off Revenue Savings for 2024/2025

The following have been identified as one-off revenue savings for 2024/2025. The associated budget will be vired to the Contingency fund. The funds exist in the budget base for delivery in 2025/2026, although there is a risk that costs will increase and therefore, additional funding may need to be found.

TABLE 1 - One-off Revenue Savings for 2024/2025			
Description of one-off	Details and Delivery	Saving	
saving			
Salary Savings: fixed	Approved until March 2025.	£16,500	
term reduction in	Permanent Contract: employee could return		
contracted hours	to establishment hours.		
Biodiversity Study and	Strategy does not provide a timeline for	£5,200	
Management Plan	delivery; therefore, Policy & Resources can		
	postpone delivery to 2025/2026.		
Carbon Audit – First	Scheduled 2024. Strategy due to be	£4,000	
Review	reviewed June – September 2024. Merits in		
	postponing to 2025 to provide full year data		
	on solar panels and on battery storage due to		
	be installed later this year.		
Vehicle Costs	Contract renewal and costs have risen.	£3,290	
	Delivery not until September 2024 but		
	budgeted for whole financial year.		
Notice Board Renewal	Year 3 of a 5 year programme; either Capital	£2,000	
	Plan updated to add another year or		
	remaining 3 year programme delivered over		
	2 years form 2025/26.		
TOTAL		£30,990	

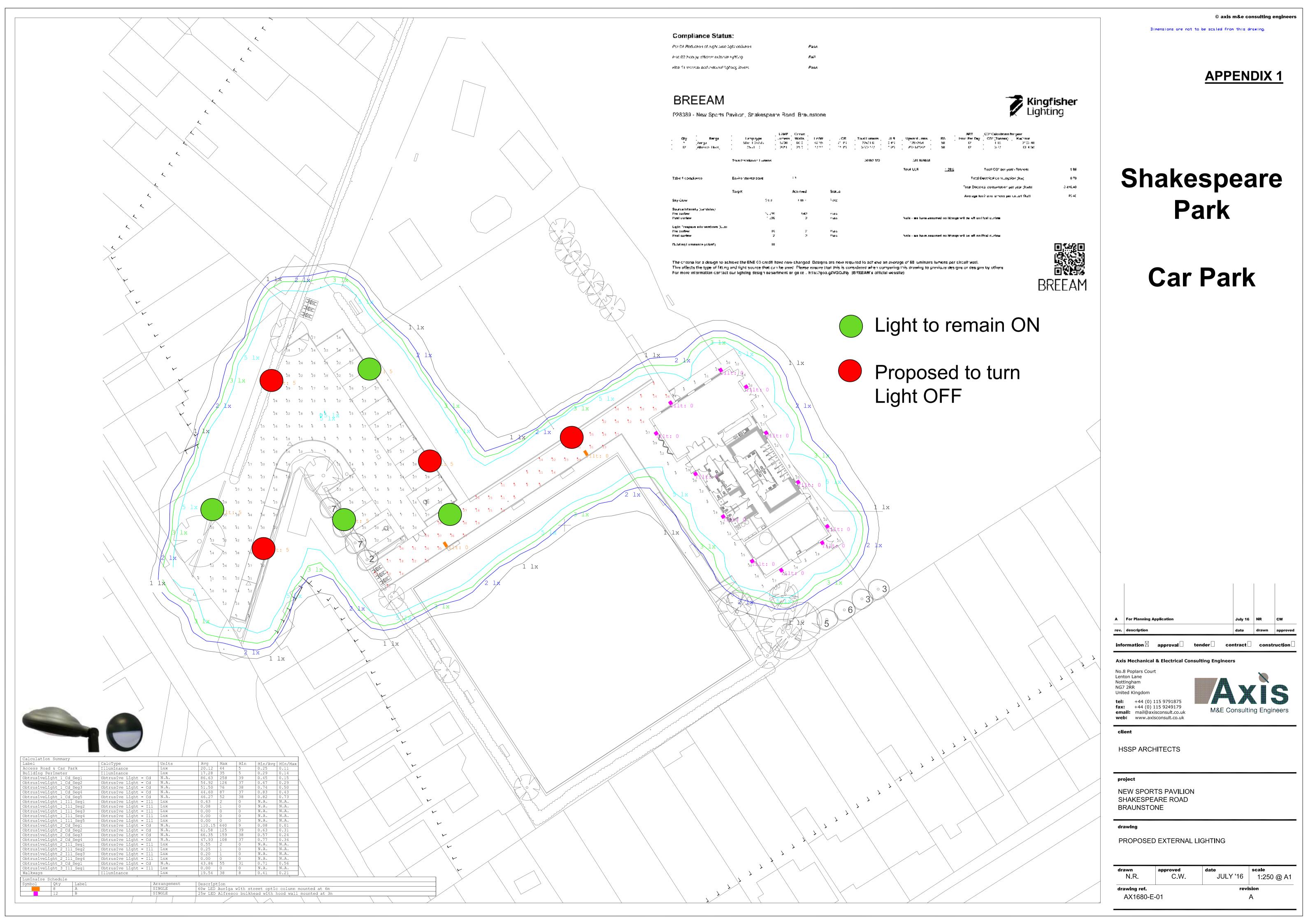
#### Ongoing Revenue Savings for Future Years

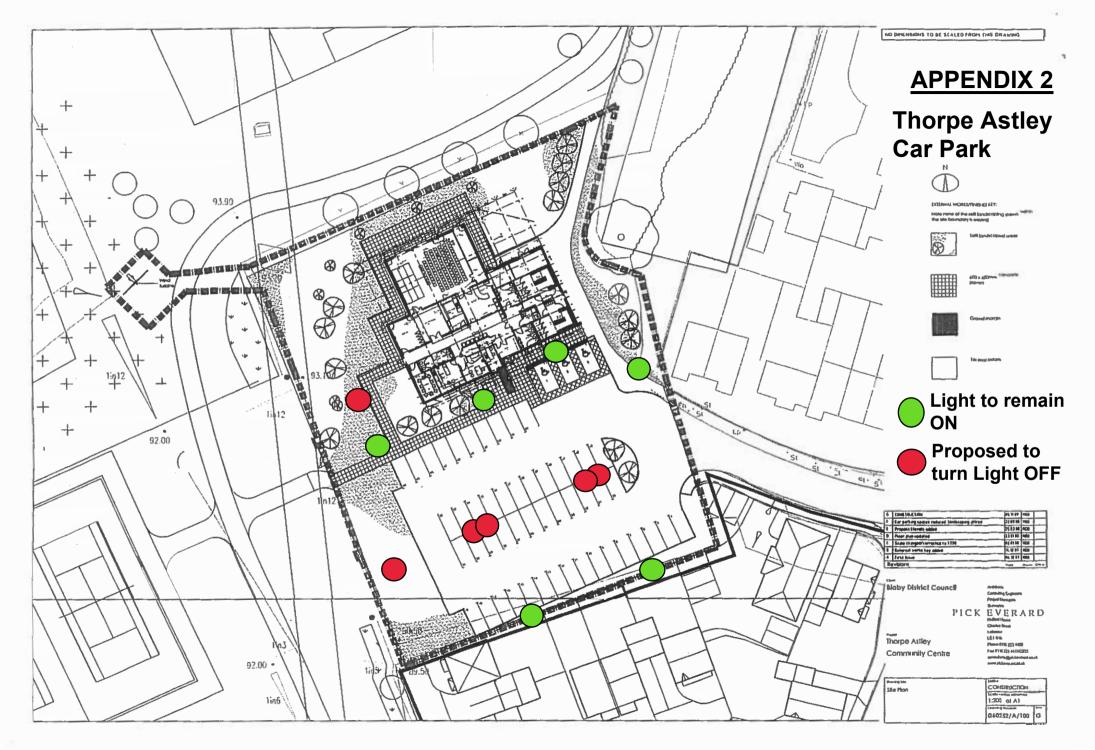
Some future and ongoing revenue savings are likely to have an initial cost. Given the current financial constraints, the savings identified will need to exceed or at least match any initial cost within the financial year.

The following ongoing savings have been identified for consideration:

TABLE 2 – Ongoing Annual Revenue Savings			
Description of one-off saving	Details and Delivery	Set up Cost	Annual Saving
Business Waste Collections	Previous contractor increased their price. Other contractors approached to quote. Quotes assessed to ensure the service was comparable. Cheapest comparable quote at £4,524 p.a. was accepted given it is within delegated spending amounts.	£0	£3,741
Sanitary Waste Collections	Alternative contractors approached and a cheaper contractor was found and accepted given it was within delegated spending amounts.	£0	£847
Car Park Lighting	Turning off half the car park lights at Shakespeare Park (Appendix 1) and Thorpe Astley Community Centre (Appendix 2). There would still be more lighting than at the Civic Centre Main Car Park.  There are no plans to change footpath lighting at Franklin Park, Mossdale Meadows or Thorpe Astley Park.	£226	Approx. £800 to £1,000.
Installation of PIR sensors in corridors	Installation of PIR sensors in corridors at Braunstone Civic Centre. Initial cost; quotes being obtained.	£547	Approx. £450 to £600.
Splitting off Lighting Circuits	Splitting off lighting circuits in the Council's buildings, to enable lighting to be turned off in unused areas or for less lighting to be used where the circumstances allow. Initial cost; quotes being obtained.	£200	Approx. £200 to £250
TOTAL		£973	£6,038 to £6,438

Plans showing the car park lights proposed to remain on and those proposed to be turned off are attached at Appendix 1 for Shakespeare Park and at Appendix 2 for Thorpe Astley Community Centre.





#### **BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

#### CITIZEN'S ADVISORY PANEL – 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2024

#### Item 8 - Improvements to Impey Close Play Area and Open Space

#### <u>Purpose</u>

To receive and comment on proposals for the refurbishment and enhancement of Impey Close Play Area and surrounding Open Space.

#### Background

Improvement work to Impey playground and surrounding open space has been included in the Town Council's Capital Plan for 2024/2025 due to the need to update and replace existing play equipment and safety surfaces. The Capital Plan included the following work:

- 1. Resurface playground with rubber mulch under play equipment and pathway.
- 2. Install new and replace vandalised equipment.
- 3. Improve paths, including gravel path "yellow brick road" and planting in surrounding open space.

#### **Proposals**

At the meeting of Policy & Resources committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 the committee endorsed the outline proposals for the project to include:

- Keeping the current Slide/Climbing Frame
- Refurbish Swings or install new swings
- Consider installation of additional new play equipment suitable for toddlers and primary school age children
- Installation of new Vehicular Access Gate
- Replacement of existing Wet Pour Safety Surfaces and replace with Rubber Bonded Mulch
- Retain existing benches and bin
- Retain existing bow top fencing around the play equipment
- Proposals to install play equipment for older children around the fenced off play area to cater for all age groups.
- Continuation of tree planting in the area
- Renovate path from Darien Way to Sculpture (top section down towards Brook) and consider installation of drainage
- Installation of bench at end of Darien Way path adjacent to Sculpture
- Addition of new swing suitable for younger/disabled children
- Obtain an assessment of the proposed footpath work from a suitably qualified engineer

#### Wider Area

Consideration of the wider area was also undertaken to include:

- Continuation of tree planting in the area
- Renovate path from Darien Way to Sculpture (top section down towards Brook) and consider installation of drainage
- Extend tarmac path from end of path from Impey Close to path from Darien Way to Sculpture
- Installation of bench at end of Darien Way path adjacent to Sculpture

#### Update

Tender documents for the refurbishment and enhancement of Impey Close playground had been circulated to appropriate contractors and site visits arranged for assessments to be undertaken. The closing date for submission of tender documents was 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Civil engineering plans for works to the footpaths including remedial drainage work had been received as shown at appendix 1 and approved by Policy & Resources Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Tender documents for the refurbishment of the footpaths would be circulated to appropriate contractors.

#### **Funding**

Investigations into potential grant funding schemes that would cover the cost of the Impey Close Play Area refurbishment had been undertaken and two schemes had been found including the National Lottery and Suez Community Fund that the Town Council could apply to. No Grant schemes were currently available for the Footpath Refurbishment work.

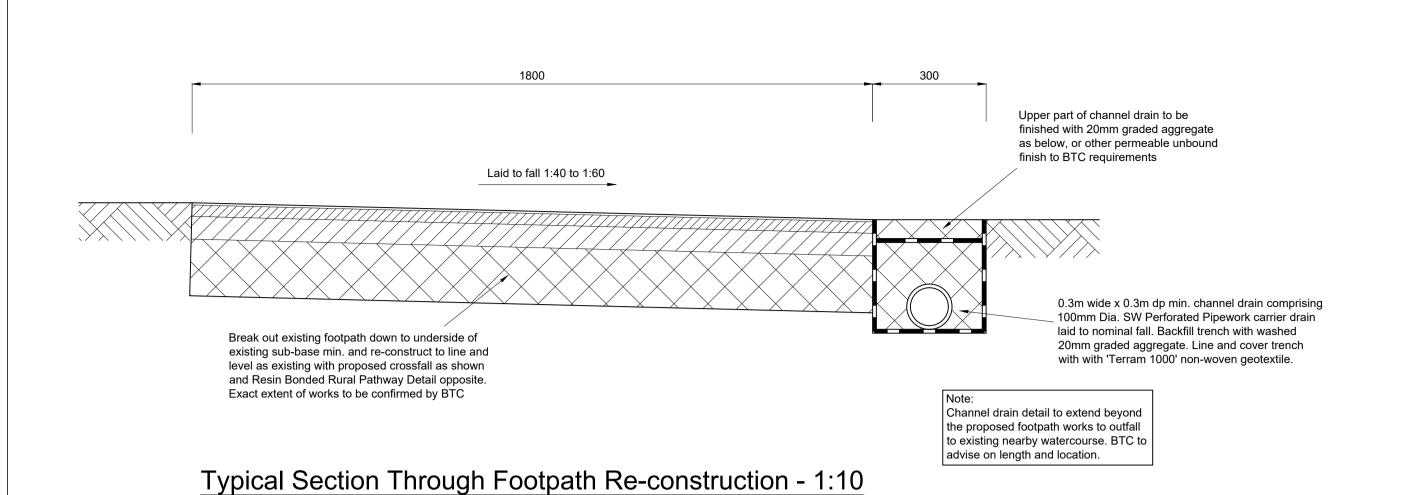
#### **Timescales**

The following timescales for the proposed works is shown below:

Date	Proposal	
June 2024	Tenders to be considered and shortlist for	
	Playground Project undertaken by Policy &	
	Resources Committee	
	Invitation to Tender for Footpaths	
July 2024	Tenders to consider and shortlist of Footpaths	
	contractors	
September – December	Final proposals and contractor agreed and	
2024	refurbishment work undertaken to playground and	
	footpaths	

#### Action Required

Consider and comment on the proposed improvements to Impey Play area and surrounding Open Space.



# **APPENDIX 1**

Surface Course:
Hand applied - Addastone PLUS Resin
Bonded - Typical depth 5-7mm
depending on aggregate size

Binder Course:

25-30mm AC6 Dense Surf 100/150 (+/-6mm)

Well compacted to minimum fall of 1:40 to

1:60. Vacuum Assisted Captive Shot Blasting
to remove dirt and residue from the surface
to ensure a good key.

Binder Course: 50-60mm AC20 Dense Bin 100/150

Proof rolled Sub-grade

150mm thk min. DOT Type 1 Sub-base laid and compacted in accordance with the DOT Specification For Highway Works.

# Resin Bonded Rural Pathway suitable for pedestrian use

#### Note:

This detail to be read in accordance with the Department of Transport's Specification for Highway Works.

Surfacing to be placed strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's specification (Addagrip).

# NOTES

This drawing is the copyright of the Engineers and may not be reproduced or used except by written permission.

Dimensions must not be scaled from this drawing. The Contractor is to check and verify all building and site dimensions before work is put in hand.

This drawing must be read and checked against any Architects or other specialists drawings.

The Contractor is to check and verify with all Statutory Authorities and the Employer the location and condition of any underground or overhead services or confirm that none exist prior to work commencing on site.

The Contractor shall comply with enactments regulations and working rules relating to safety health and welfare of workpeople.

# **DRAINAGE NOTES:**

- 1. ALL DISCREPANCIES NOTED ON SITE TO BE REPORTED TO THE
- ENGINEER IMMEDIATELY.
- 2. All dimensions in millimeters and levels in meters unless noted otherwise.
- 3. All work is to be carried out in accordance with the current British Standards, Codes of Practice and Building Regulations.
- The exact position, level, size and use of existing sewers to be confirmed on site. Any discrepancies to be reported to the Engineer PRIOR TO
- COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS.

  5. All uncovered and shallow pipework to be protected against construction
- traffic as part of the Contractors temporary works requirements.

  6. All un-noted buried pipework to be 150mm dia. unless subject to other notes or noted otherwise.
- 7. All buried pipework to be U-PVC type in accordance with WIs 4-35-01 unless noted otherwise.
- 8. All soft spots encountered in the trench formation to be removed and replaced with graded granular material unless instructed otherwise.
- The design of any temporary works required shall be the responsibility of the Contractor.
- 10. All proposed drainage to be constructed adjacent to new and proposed tree planting to be adequately protected against root activity using root barriers in accordance with the chosen manufacturer's recommendations.
- 11. Contractor to include for the modification of all existing buried services affected by the works. Note that levels across the site will change as a result of the proposals affecting covers and depths to services which may need to be raised or lowered.





collinshallgreen Consulting Structural & Civil Engineers

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Thorpe Astley Estate

Footpath Reconstruction Details

 Drg Scale
 Drawn
 Checked
 CHG job No.

 J522
 J522

Drawing Number

J522-CHG-Z0-00-DR-C-5030

P01