

Improving our Market Place



Newsletter 11
25/05/18

This month has seen further areas of stone laid with the space in front of Boots gradually opening up and, whilst still constrained, The Courtyard Restaurant is able to use some outside space on the new Market Place which is very pleasing to see. This week the old fire station stones have been re-laid in front of Piccolo Arco, these are an important part of the town's heritage as the now restaurant and Timpsons were originally used as a fire station with specially sized engines to fit through the archways.

Difficulties have been encountered along the Boots side in terms of ensuring that the levels are correct to manage drainage but also to ensure that existing thresholds are well aligned with the new surfacing. It is clear on the Clarks Corner how well the stonemasons have achieved this and are continuing to do so along that whole side. The thresholds across the rest of the site will require careful management and expert stone laying to ensure the quality finish we are all expecting and this will take time between now and the completion of the project.

Denmark Street itself is now well underway but again difficulties have arisen from previous carriageways and much old material and debris has had to be carefully removed from the site before the main construction could be started.

Those of you who have been in town this week will have seen that the main benches around the trees have arrived. We have received a number of positive comments that they are really bringing the site to life and enabling the final finish to start to emerge. Please do take a look; the easiest viewing point is from in front of the Coop.



To make you aware there will need to be some further night work in the coming weeks to build the 'nose' in front of Costas which faces down into Peach Street. In July this area will need to be completed and at this point both Broad Street and Peach Street will need to be closed but this will be a full overnight closure and we will keep you informed via our updates.

Completion

We are still hopeful that, as previously indicated, the project will be completed in mid July. However, if we encounter significant problems tying in the thresholds on Denmark Street this may stretch to the end of the month. Again we will keep you updated via the weekly schedules.

Wokingham International Street Concert

You will be aware that the annual International Street Concert is taking place on June 2nd in Broad Street. We hope that many of you will join us for this free event



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from 6pm to enjoy a great evening of music and entertainment.

It has been agreed that Balfour Beatty take the opportunity of this planned road closure to carry out some works to the kerbline outside HSBC.

This will minimise further disruption and so the road closure will run from 8pm on Friday 1st June to 6am on Sunday 3rd June. This work will not affect the Street Concert arrangements.

Traffic diversions on this day will follow the Winter Carnival routing down Easthampstead Road. Full details in advance on www.roadworks.org.

Regeneration Projects

To keep up to date with the wider Regeneration works; Peach Place, Elms Field and Carnival visit: www.regenerationcompany.co.uk

Of Interest

Forget Me Not Walk

A wonderful family day was held and over £22K was raised for Sue Ryder which is an amazing achievement



and undoubtedly some of our Wokingham Families will benefit at the Sue Ryder Centre at Wokingham Hospital.

Time Capsule

A lovely event was held earlier in May when the capsule was filled ready for sealing and burying in front of the Town Hall. Students and pupils from some of our local schools have written letters describing what life is like for them in 2018.

Other items of interest included this year's Suffragette stamps, a set of 2018 coins, a local and national newspaper, town guide and various photographs and items that will really help those who open it gain a 'peek into the past'. We are indicating that the capsule should not be opened until 2068.

It was lovely to be able to welcome the young people to place their own items into the casket and also to work out how old they will be in 50 years time and wonder whether they will still be living in Wokingham as the capsule is opened.



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Works update

This month has seen:

- Installation of 180m² Yorkstone paving in front of the shops on Broad Street north footpath
- Installation of 42m² of Yorkstone paving in the Market Place and grouted 890m² which accompanied the opening of the entrance into Courtyard Restaurant on the 1st May
- Commenced Yorkstone paving in front of Piccolo Arco entrance and the laying of the Fire Station heritage flag stones
- Completion of the new surface water drainage and foul water manholes on Denmark Street
- Completion of the new surface water drainage gulleys on Denmark Street
- Removed 151m of existing asphalt road in Denmark Street and commencement of the excavation for the new road alignment and loading bays
- Installed 30m² of Yorkstone paving to the shop fronts in the Market Place
- Installation of tree guards in the Market Place

Work Planned for June:

- Completion of the granite kerbs to the new road alignment in Denmark Street
- Laying of base course asphalt material to the new road alignment in Denmark Street
- Installation of granite setts along the kerblines in Denmark Street
- Completion of the remaining Yorkstone paving to the Market Place shop fronts
- Completion of the Yorkstone paving and opening up of the Broad Street shop fronts
- Installation of street furniture to site
- Completion of the Yorkstone paving in front of Piccolo Arco and Timpsons

- Excavation of the new footpaths areas to formation level on the east side of the Town Hall



Registered site
www.ccscheme.org.uk

Next drop in session:

Town Hall

Friday 29th June 10am-12pm

Want to keep up to date?

The following will be regularly updated:

Wokingham Town Council website

www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk

Wokingham Borough Council website

www.wokingham.gov.uk

Wokingham Information Centre & Notice Boards at the Town Hall

Wokingham Town Council social media:

 /wokinghamtowncouncil  @wokingham_TC

Wokingham Borough Council social media:

 /wokinghamboroughcouncil  @wokinghamBC

For queries:

wokingham.environmental.improvements

@wokingham.gov.uk

Wokingham Town Council: Jan Nowecki, Town Clerk,



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