

**Agenda item number: 5**

**Date of meeting: 17thdecember 2018**

**THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

**Recreation and Amenities Committee**

**Report by: Naomi Mildenhall**

**Job Title: Services Manager**

**Subject: Broadway Green**

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**1 Purpose of Report**

For Members to consider the revitalisation of the Broadway Green including quotes from landscape architects.

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**2 Background**

Thatcham Broadway Green is a registered village green and as such is protected for sports and recreational use. The Town Council run several events on the green such as the Christmas lights switch on, Fun on The Broadway and the Festival.

The weekly market also set up a small number of stalls on the green as well as the car park hard standing.

The Turley report written in 2009 states that the Broadway Green is tired and needs revitalisation as the Town Centre's key public space this could serve to draw residents and visitors to the southern extents of the main shopping area – increasing footfall.

The Council Plan 2014-2019 sets out in objective four that there should be ongoing improvement to encourage more use as this is the heart of the town.

Public Realm Report 2014 which was supplementary to the Turley report in 2009 and commissioned by Thatcham Vision built on this further by suggesting a design, I have included the pages at the bottom of this report appendix I. However, part of that suggestion was to include a play area which would not be appropriate due to the adjacent busy road.

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**3 Details of Project**

Two landscape architects have supplied quotes to redesign the layout of the green, Members are asked to consider these quotes.

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#### **4 Financial Implications**

<b>Quote A</b>	<b>Quote B</b>
£1,480	£2,950

Both quotes include working with Council Officers on a design that enhances and reflects the current use of the green but that also encourages future use and presentation of the design.

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#### **5 Legislation**

Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10

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#### **6 Reference to Council Plan**

Objective Four: To promote local business and improve The Broadway

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#### **7 Consultation**

Consultation has taken place through the Turley Report and Vision plans in 2009 and 2014 respectively.

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#### **8 Recommendation**

Officers recommend that quote A be appointed. Consideration should be given to how this links in to the Broadway toilet plans.

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- Key features
1. Widened footways to provide easier access and place an emphasis on people
  2. Widened green/garden island to increase civic importance
  3. New cafe to act as focus of activity and bring life into the space
  4. Wider crossing at entrance to Kingsland Centre arcade
  5. Carrageway, central parking / market stall area reoriented and resurfaced
  6. New trees to enhance character, sense of identity and help detract from poor quality buildings and shopfronts
  7. Safe play area to increase amenity value and provide seating, social play and rest areas
  8. Gardens present a soft edge with trees and shrubs and grass habitat with sufficient seats and social areas to exploit the amenity
  9. Bus stops moved to improve access and free up space for wider footways
  10. New outdoor seating areas to pubs
  11. Remove island tail to open up right turn
  12. Parking moved to one side of High Street to reduce impact and create a better sense of place.



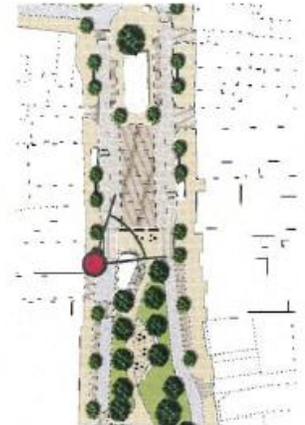


Before



After

## The Broadway



- Resurfaced carriageway, footways and crossing points
- Narrowed carriageway for vehicles
- New kiosk in central area with seating which is de-cluttered
- New bus stop (though perhaps only one is needed in The Broadway)
- Coordinated market stall covers and tables
- New street trees and tree grilles (may incorporate Thatcham logo)

## The Broadway Green



- Enlarged green and garden area with new footways and planting (bringing seasonal colour and interest)
- Narrowed carriageway for vehicles
- New piece(s) of play equipment to diversify amenity value
- Appropriate planting to act as a barrier to the edge of the space (railings may also be considered)
- Low level traffic signs to reduce visual clutter and the number of poles and signs
- New seating
- Appropriate lighting

