

Portwall Gardens

Community Infrastructure Levy Feasibility Study

Redcliffe & Temple Business Improvement District

Introduction

Redcliffe & Temple Business Improvement District requested a design concept for Portwall Gardens in May 2023.

The following document includes site analysis and a proposal concept for the Community Infrastructure Levy funding application.

Location

Portwall Gardens is located along Redcliffe Way and is adjacent to Portwall Lane and Phippen Street. The site is surrounded by an office building, car park, hotel and St Mary Redcliffe Church.

Portwall Gardens is located within a 7 minute walk to Bristol Temple Meads railway station and a 5 minute walk to Queens Square.

A bus stop is located opposite the site which provides access to the 70, 73, Bristol Tour and A1 Airport Flyer bus routes.



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Site Constraints and analysis

- 1 Stone wall, high hedges and foliage between pavement and park restricts pedestrian use. Car park significantly reduces the size of the park



- 2 South side of the site is exposed to high road traffic. Creating a barrier with soft landscaping could improve visual and acoustic qualities of the park



- 3 Large sign restricts site views



- 4 Chatterton House is a grade 2 listed building

- 5 Lack of seating minimises opportunity for the site to be enjoyed by local occupants and adjacent amenities.



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Precedents

Rail Road Street Furniture



Rail Road street furniture is a seating range that integrates planting to create unique opportunities to socialise. It has been used in Quakers Friar which is adjacent to Cabot Circus. It offers a variety of street furniture using delta supports made from (recycled) steel, triple processed and powder coated in copper brown. It adds greenery and a range of seating arrangements for individuals and large groups.

Glassfields, Bristol



B|D Landscape Architects have designed a new public space at the centre of glassfields development in temple meads. It introduces native wild flower meadows, undulating ornamental planting, tree planting and wildlife stations. It embeds bespoke wayfinding elements and playful paths directed towards a central events space.

Vegetation Screening

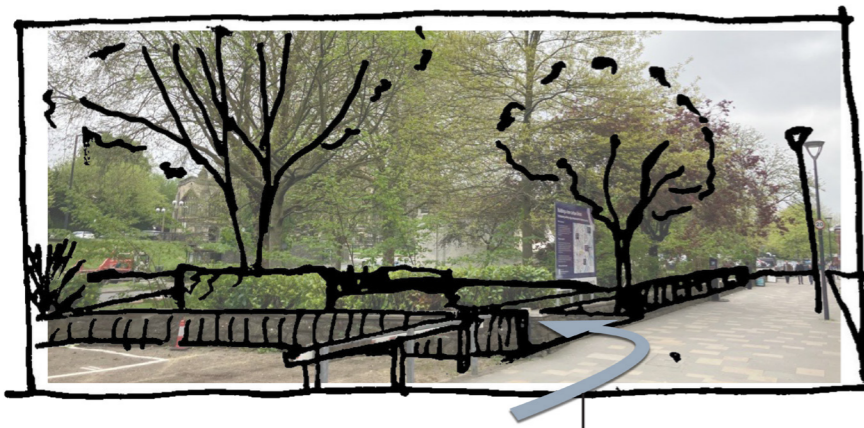


One of the main constraints of the site is its adjacency to Redcliffe Way, which is a source of heavy road traffic, noise and pollution. Integrating vegetation that visually screens the road will improve the overall experience of the site. Furthermore, selecting vegetation that produces natural sound will function as a positive white noise, distracting the user from nearby traffic. Using dense vegetation and a willow wall could help mitigate the acoustic and visual challenges.

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Concept Sketches

Establish a new access route to Portwall Gardens



New Entrance

The site views along Portwall Lane are restricted due to tall vegetation and a large council sign. Improving the views onto the site aims to increase footfall and site activity.

Integrate a sound barrier to improve acoustics

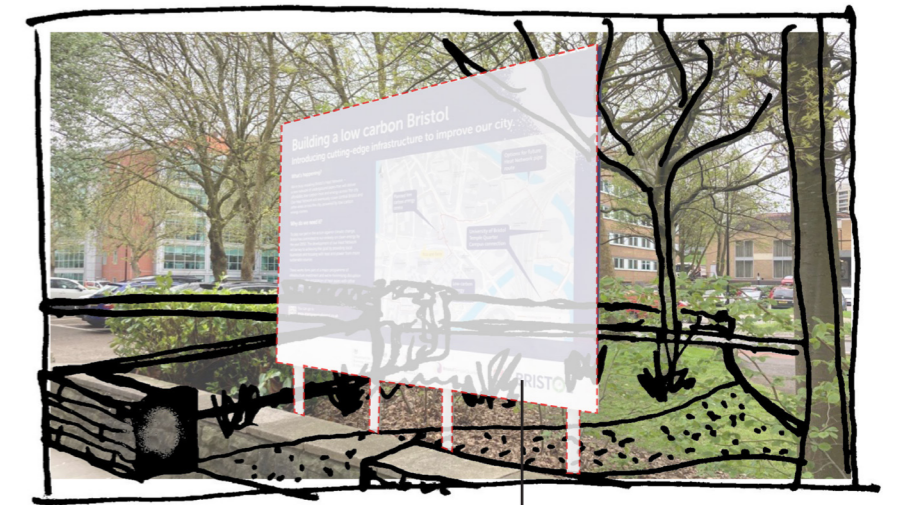


Visual Screen

Planting

Phase 1 of the scheme will attract more users and activity. Later phases could offer greater biodiversity and opportunities to socialise.

Remove sign and increase site views



Remove Sign

Creating a new access point will involve the removal of the stone wall. It is important that the new path is permeable and does not negatively impact the existing trees if located in the root protection zone.

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Phase 1



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Phase 1

Phase 1 would deliver a new access point located along Portwall Lane and increase park benches on the site. It will require the removal of a large council sign and section of wall. It aims to increase site use by making the gardens more visible and create further opportunities for local occupants to enjoy the space.

Entrance from Portwall Lane



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Potential future phases

