

Folkestone – A Brighter Future

Newsletter Issue 11



Middelburg Square South – newly constructed footways and bus shelters.

To members of the public,

The Folkestone - A Brighter Future Scheme has progressed well with noticeable updates to roads and public realm areas.

Cheriton Road

Works along Cheriton Road have been successful. This month we have constructed new footways, carried out drainage works, gas diversions and have installed rain gardens. Most of the rain gardens have now been constructed and we will finish installing the final ones near Connaught Road by the end of April 2026. After completion of the rain gardens, we will work on footways at the entrance of Connaught Road. This work will mean Cheriton Road will have to be temporarily narrowed. Connaught Road will remain open, and safe pedestrian diversions will be provided. In early April along Cheriton Road, an update will be sent out with further details and images attached.

Shorncliffe Junction

Our traffic management changed at Shorncliffe Junction in March. We closed Manor Road northbound so we could continue working on improvements at the junction. A vehicle diversion has been provided via Ingles Road and Bouverie Road West, and this will reopen on the 10th of April.

Throughout April we will carry out landscaping works to planted areas, install paving slabs and set footway covers. Towards the end of April there will be a final series of overnight works at the Shorncliffe Junction. These works will take place for seven weeknights. A letter will be distributed nearer the time to nearby residents and businesses containing details of works and confirmed dates.

Newly constructed tabletop crossing – Shorncliffe junction



Station Approach / Radnor Park Roundabout

The final remaining work on station approach and Radnor Park roundabout is starting on Monday the 13th of April and will run until July 2026. During this time there will be four-way traffic signals in place for safety.

We will organise traffic management, safety fencing, and footway signage before starting works. Then we will disconnect and remove redundant zebra crossing beacons and break out redundant islands. Drainage and footway works will also be carried out, and pedestrian diversions will be provided with adequate signage. These works will first be completed at Station Approach and then at Radnor Park roundabout. Improvements to cycle lanes will be made and the final surfacing of roads will be carried out.

At the end of this period all work in this area for the Folkestone – A Brighter Future project will be complete.

Shellons Street / Guildhall Street

Along Shellons Street walkways have been reopened and we have completed the granite paving up to the shop fronts. From next week until July 2026 we will start works along Guildhall Street. During this time, we will begin constructing four planters which will be landscaped during the next planting season. This will create a more attractive and inviting environment, which will hopefully entice more people to this area of the town centre. Access will always be provided to residents and businesses during this time.

Middelburg Square East

We have continued installing the flag paving outside of Bouverie Square Shopping Centre. The pedestrian footpath has been moved back towards the centre while we complete the final phases of paving. Grey Cranesbill and Rose Campion flowers have been planted in the newly constructed planters. Over the next month we will continue installing new kerbs and paving, completing drainage works and breaking out redundant kerbs and footways.

Middelburg Square South

The footpath adjacent the public realm area has been opened for pedestrian use and new bus stops are now in action. We have since continued to work on the footways at the Asda carpark

entrance/exit, redundant paving has been broken out, and landscaping works have started in the newly constructed planters.

Middelburg Square West

Last month we saw the temporary closure of Bouverie Road West and Cheriton Place. We have been making progress with new drainage, road and footway works and this area is on schedule to be re-opened on the 24th of April. Works include breaking out old paving on footways in preparation for new slabs. The island at the Bouverie Road West entrance has also been resurfaced, new kerbs and edgings have been installed, and planters have been constructed and filled with soil.



Bouverie Square Public Realm Area

Throughout this period, we have continued to breakout the existing concrete pavement and place aggregate ready for asphalt to enable granite paving. We have started the drainage and ducting to facilitate the public realm area. This will continue through April.

Sandgate Road

Works are progressing on Sandgate Road with all the granite paving having been installed with only a small area of repaving needed near Greggs still to be done. Excavations were carried out and redundant paving was broken out and is being replaced. The pedestrian route was changed, with safe walkways provided and plenty of pedestrian signage to alleviate confusion. We are now working on the final planter in that area. Once all the planters are built, we will fill them with soil ready for landscaping works. Some bike hoops have now been installed and foundations for bins, benches and further bike hoops will be carried out over April.

Archaeology

Archaeologists from Kent County Council have been assigned to the Folkestone – A Brighter Future project to record any historical findings uncovered during excavations. The archaeologists have been present on site during excavations and have recorded small findings in various areas.

These include:

- Bronze age pottery uncovered along Cheriton Road during the installation of rain gardens
- Brick post-medieval footings (part of a historic foundation) uncovered in Sandgate Road
- Three chalk backfilled WWII features which appear to run into a bunker uncovered in Bouverie Square

These findings are being studied in more detail and further information will be shared in the next newsletter along with any new discoveries.

Community works

During March a student from Turner Schools completed a weeks' worth of work experience with Jackson's on the Folkestone site. The student was able to observe and understand how a site runs, and how to safely carry out works in such a busy area. Experiencing this hopefully furthered their knowledge on engineering and will assist them with future opportunities. Jackson's have also been putting together activities for upcoming school visits next month.

Public engagement with local businesses and stakeholders was also carried out in March, informing residents of upcoming works and updates. Numerous letter drops took place, containing further details and dates of works to be expected to those directly affected.

For more information on the roads scheme, please visit Kent County Council's website.

www.kent.gov.uk/folkestoneabrighterfuture

For more information about Folkestone – A Brighter Future please visit Folkestone & Hythe District Council's website www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/FABF

For any further enquiries, please send an email to Folkestone@jackson-civils.co.uk or call the Jackson Public Liaison Officer on 07974 416435