

Folkestone – A Brighter Future

Newsletter Issue 15



Aerial view of Folkestone Town Centre.

To members of the public,

We are now venturing into the final stages of the scheme, with more than 80% of works now complete.

Station Approach / Cheriton Road Junction

The four-way traffic lights at Radnor Park roundabout have now transitioned to three-way lights which is causing slightly less disruption. Unfortunately, these three-way lights will need to remain up longer than initially planned.

There is no single detailed master map of where utilities are underground so like all large projects Folkestone – A Brighter Future has had to dig trenches to survey services and then adapt plans as necessary. The utilities under Station Approach have proved particularly unpredictable with UKPN having to complete emergency work and address significant uncharted buried services found on site. Unfortunately, this has made excavation slower and has had a knock-on effect in terms of timelines. The Jacksons team have been working to remedy this, completing overnight works to try and make up time and minimise disruption. However, these unexpected issues have necessitated design changes including a small diversion for underground services. There has also been a need to redesign areas to accommodate changes including a widening of footways and adjustments to drainage. Due to these factors, and in order to safely complete the works needed in the area, it has been necessary to extend the three-way lights until the end of August. This extension is naturally disappointing, but we aim to complete these works as quickly and safely as possible. Thank you for bearing with us as we make Folkestone town centre greener, safer and more welcoming.

Guildhall Street / Shellons Street

Over the past month we have been continuing with the preparation works for the footbridge. The North and South abutments have now been installed, and we have now begun to construct the foundations for the North plinth. A plinth is a concrete structure which elevates the bridge to provide a level surface. Throughout August we will continue with the preparation works for the installation of the plinth.

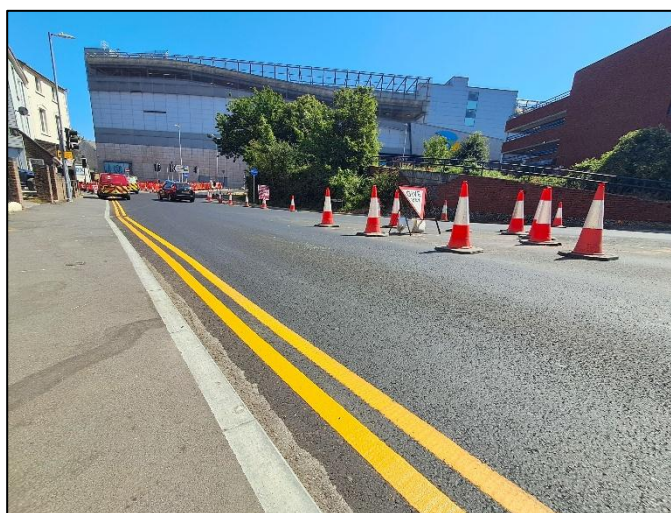


South Abutment

Trial holes performed previously in Guildhall St. identified the presence of utilities that required a revision to the original design. Subsequently, new benches and bike hoops will be installed in Guildhall Street. We will start by reinstating cobbles to the area, remove existing benches and litter bins. These works will start over the next month.

Middelburg Square

During July, we successfully resurfaced the roads in both Middelburg Square East and South throughout a series of overnight works. Road markings were also installed during this period and were carried out overnight to minimise disruption. At Middelburg Square West, we have been continuing with the installation of rain gardens which are now almost complete. In August, we will fill the remaining landscape areas with topsoil in preparation for trees which will be installed at a later date.



Middelburg Square South and East

Bouverie Square public realm area

The public realm area is now coming to life, and you can now visualise how this green space will look once it is complete. Large areas including footways have been installed with granite paving and this work will continue throughout August. Soil has now been added to landscape areas and plants will be added during the next planting season. Operatives have been carrying out works throughout the week, including weekend working, to ensure the area is complete as soon as possible.



Community works

Throughout July, Jacksons have been engaging with residents and local businesses giving them advanced notice of upcoming works. Engagement has been consistent and regular feedback is being received which is extremely useful. If you have any concerns or queries or would like to know more about the scheme, please reach out to our local Public Liaison Officer using the details provided below.

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

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

