

## Darley Park Terrace

### SUMMARY

- 1.1 Repairs are being implemented to the terrace following subsidence and collapse of the paving. This work has involved the demolition of the existing pergola, raised beds and other features and taking up of the paving. The ground is to be filled and compacted before the Yorkstone paving is relaid.
- 1.2 As part of the work it is proposed to reinstate above ground features and the opportunity has been taken to design the above ground features to take account of how the terrace is used and to improve accessibility. The Council has consulted with local people via the Friends of Darley Open Spaces, the café operator and others who use the terrace.
- 1.3 Key findings from the consultation showed:
  - Support to have a pergola to provide vertical interest on the terrace
  - Desire to remove the step between the terrace and adjacent hard surfacing in front of the café
  - To retain the views across the park
  - To leave the central area open so that it can be better used for open area performances and events
  - To provide access between the terrace and stable courtyard
- 1.4 The designs have been developed to take account of the response from consultation. In addition a number of constraints have been imposed by the existing features on site that will be retained and the available budget.
- 1.5 The scheme design is shown on the attached plan, with the following key features:
  - The level of the main part of the terrace is being lowered to remove the step between the café area and terrace and to ease access from the stable courtyard via the new gates. A raised section at the south end will be at existing ground level and is intended to overcome some difficulties with levels at this end of the terrace. If the terrace was lowered then further work would be required to adjust the boundary fence and wall or alternatively the fence would be left at its current height, leaving it too high and potentially blocking the view. The change in level also gives definition to the lower section, and provides the sense of going up to enjoy the view across the park. Disabled access to the raised section is provided by an accessible ramp.
  - The pergola is reinstated on approximately the same position as the one

recently demolished, with the addition of a cross section to help provide a separation of the space and gives definition and reinforces the change in level. The separation of the space allows activities and performances to take place in the lower section, while still providing separate access onto the raised section. The pergola will be constructed in timber, with oak the preferred choice subject to cost.

- Raised planting beds will be retained around the edge of the space and to help take up the level changes. These will be planted with climbers to provide shade and shelter on the terrace.
- Seating will be provided within the space

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To ensure that Conservation Area Advisory Committee are kept informed of the project and have the opportunity to make comments.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The terrace was constructed following the demolition of the hall in the 1960's. The terrace was subsequently refurbished in the early 1990's. There is no historic interest or value in the paving and above ground features.
- 4.2 The remains of the hall external walls are not affected by the proposals
- 4.3 In recent years the terrace has been used for a number of local events and performances and it is the desire of the Friends Group that these should be developed and increased. The proposals have been designed to allow this to happen.

## **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 Various designs have been considered for the terrace including its reinstatement exactly as it was. These have been discounted for various reasons and the proposals is one that is considered to provide improvements on the original layout and can be delivered within the budget available.
- 5.2 An option of do nothing above ground level was discounted as this would have left a large paved area that would be unattractive to use

**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer	
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<b>Service Director(s)</b> <b>Other(s)</b>	
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<b>For more information contact:</b> <b>Background papers:</b> <b>List of appendices:</b>	Name Andrew Morgan 01332 641571 e-mail andrew.morgan@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications
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<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 There is a finite capital budget. There will no increase in future maintenance costs and this is a reinstatement of an existing feature

**Legal**

- 2.1 None

**Personnel**

- 3.1 None

**Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 The proposals improve the accessibility of the terrace from surrounding areas by removing a step and providing both ramped and step access where a change in level is needed.

**Health and Safety**

- 5.1 None

**Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.1 The paving materials are being reused. Timber will be FSC certified

**Asset Management**

- 7.1 None

**Risk Management**

- 8.1 None

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 9.1 None

