

STRATEGIC APPROACH: PUBLIC REALM

Characters & Nodes

The primary foci of the town centre are highlighted, each of which respond directly to the character areas, and each of which can perform a unique function for the town centre.

The role of public realm characters & nodes

By defining each primary public realm character, and their associated nodes at points of transition, a series of bespoke responses can be directed. Each has their own unique requirements, and have their own setting, requiring different approaches to optimise their potential.

Introducing the characters

The High Street is presented as a series of characters, with the key arteries at its edges feeding the town centre - the THQ, Queens Road, Market Street, and Clarendon Road. These can each be characterised by key uses that can differ between them, supporting the town centre in different ways.

- Town Hall Quarter: civic and cultural focus
- High Street North: events space
- High Street Central: relationship to the market
- High Street South: intimate high street
- Market Street: new focus on public space beyond vehicular movement
- Queens Road: re-characterised as a core component of the town centre, not a peripheral space
- Clarendon Road: linear space connecting the town centre to the station

Introducing the nodes

A series of nodes connect the string of characters along the High Street and key connecting routes. At every juncture, a special point of interest can be created. Many of these are already punctuated by a mature tree, and the theme of greening can be the primary method to create landmarks with way finding elements, further enhancing these nodes as positive spaces.

Photos of how these spaces currently manifest are included on the map, with notes on how they could be enhanced.

