

Bus Shelter Beautification working party notes and suggested actions

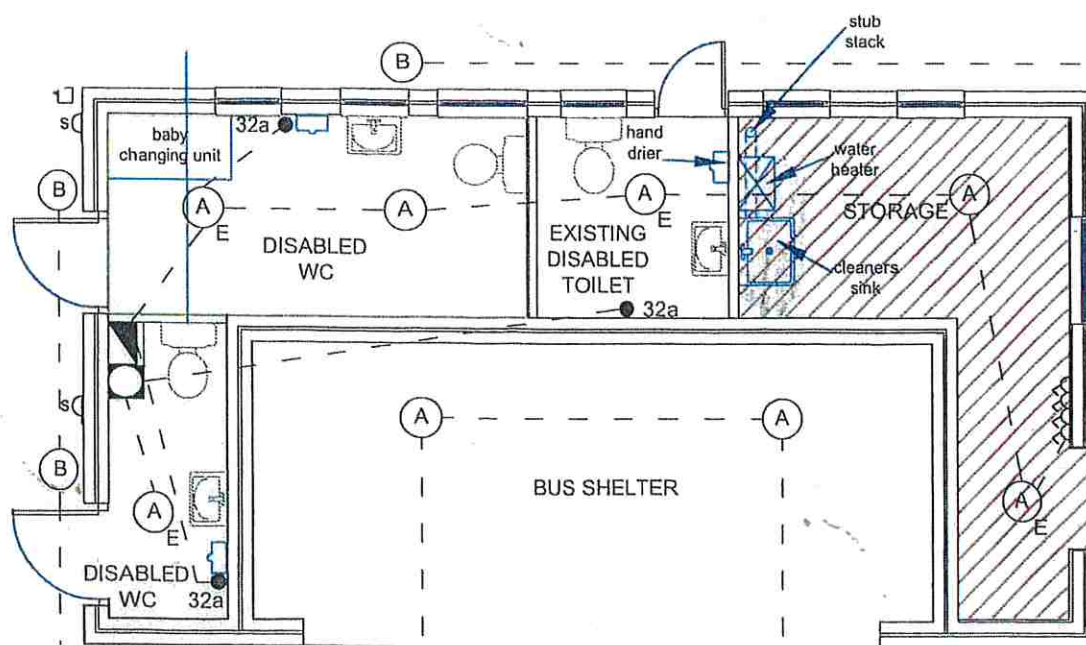
Briefing Note

On the 11th of October, and at 2pm and 7pm, we convened two working parties to discuss possible developments to the Bus Shelter in the High Street and its immediate surroundings. It was very well attended by both Councillors and various invited resident group representatives. The notes that follow give a flavor of what was discussed and the initial thoughts and ideas of those present.

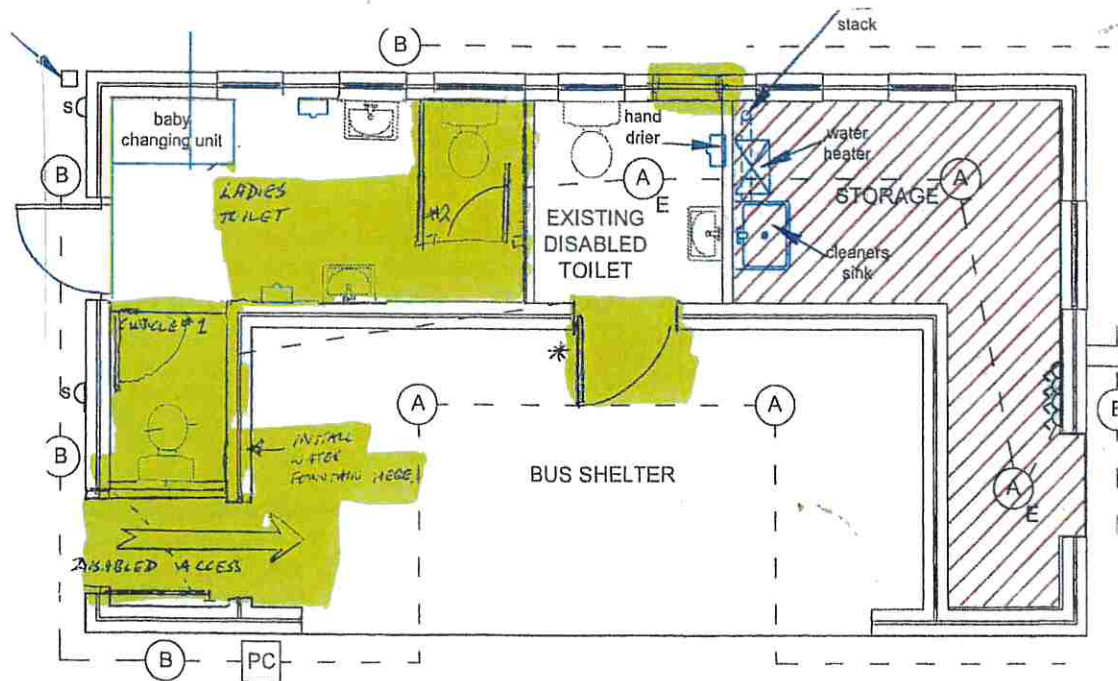
On the basis of what was discussed I wonder if we could consider three proposals (in brown type) to move this project forward, please.

1. *On the basis that this idea was universally accepted and if completed would not alter the plans for any future consideration in terms of any possible redevelopment - To ask the clerk to contact HDC refuse department and to see if they could install the already purchased recycling bin and to ask if they can install it in the place where currently sits a normal waste bin – adjacent the door to the large disabled toilet.*
2. *There have been two suggested redevelopments (noted below) which would enable disabled access to the Bus Shelter – seated area which would not involve any ramp and step and banister installation in front of the shelter or change of internal levels as per suggested redevelopment drawings already produced via a structural engineer for an approximate cost of £10-15K. I suggest the clerk be tasked with asking a local contractor to provide an estimate to ascertain the approx. cost of either proposal as it would affect almost every other aspect of any future beautification idea.*

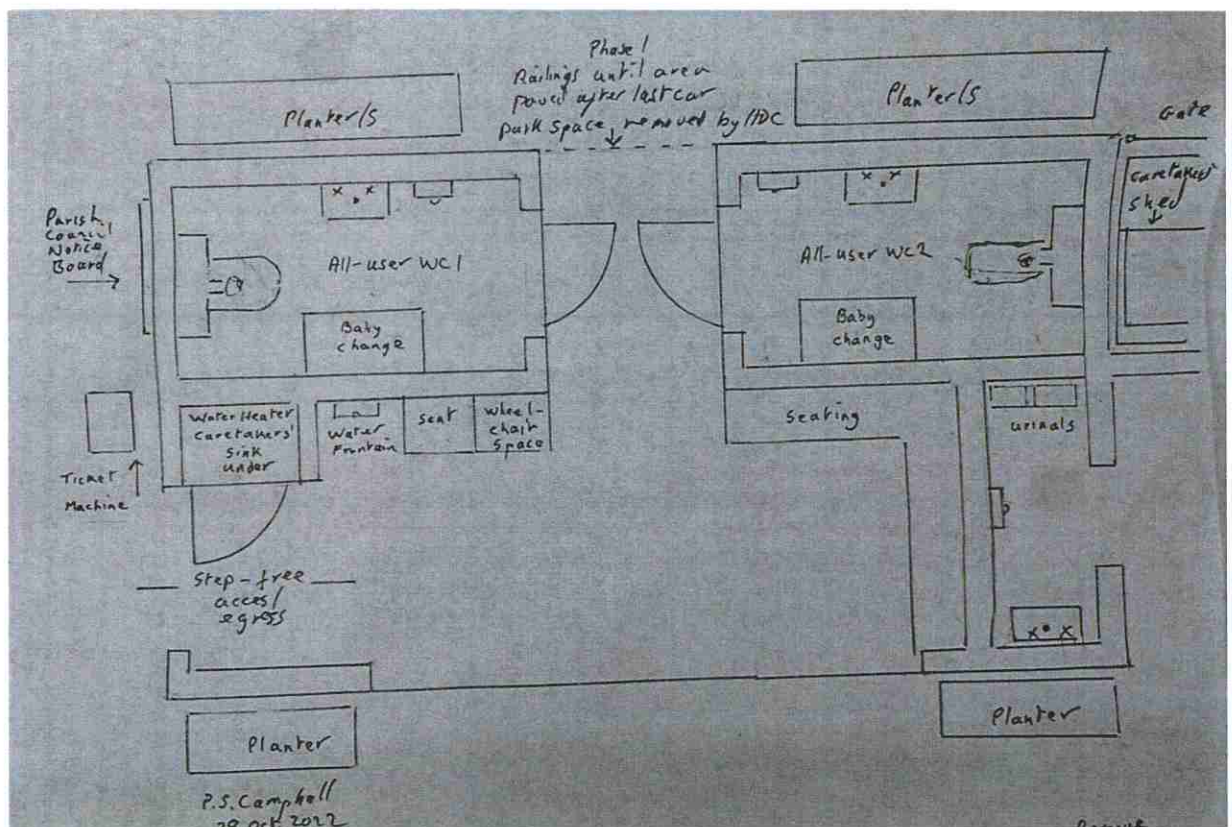
Existing Plan



Suggested reconfiguration of Bus Shelter number one



Suggested reconfiguration of Bus Shelter number one



3. And third could I ask that we agree to convene another working party to consider this and any other thought soon after receiving this estimate.

Bus Shelter 'Beautification' Working Party Meeting - Notes

Date convened – 11th October 2022, – Two meetings starting at 2pm and 7pm.

Clerked by – J. Fullbrook and Hazel Roxby

Members attending – Cllrs Young, Norcross, I Alexander, Parsons, Goldsmith, S Alexander & Campbell.

Residents in attendance – Representing Steyning in Bloom – Jill Burstow, Mariella Alexander, Sara Bowers and Lynne Broome. Representing Steyning Business Chamber - Russell Barnes, Representing Steyning & District Partnership (Visitors and Tourism) Reina Alston, (Also Russell Barnes, I Alexander). Representing the History Society Ian Ivatt (Not in attendance but submitted ideas for discussion).

Notes (combined from both meetings)

The Clerk asked that the group consider and freely discuss all possible ideas and developments concerning the High Street Bus Shelter and its immediate surroundings, but that there were also some main items which had prompted the convening of the working party in the first place, and that these were to be discussed as a priority – These being

1. The placing of hanging baskets /troughs and or plant tubs adjacent the building to be used by the Steyning in Bloom team to enhance the buildings aesthetic appearance
2. Consider an alternative to the current positioning of the SPC Notice board
3. Views on possible Shutter installation
4. Views on Disabled Access to the covered area
5. Installation of Recycling Bin(s)
6. Installing Art and or Notice boards.

Thoughts as follows:

1. Providing planters.

It was suggested that having both Planters and Hanging Troughs/ Baskets at the front of the building could be over-doing it. If there were to be Planters, then there would be a need to move the existing Bin and Grit Bin – And finding an alternative location for the Grit Bin could be troublesome. Also, if a ramp was the preference for disabled access on the front left of the building this would rule out any large Planter installation. It seemed therefore that installing hanging planters and no planter tubs was a preference on each side, and for the hanging troughs to be installed just underneath the square notice areas {Green background with white surround}.

2. SPC Notice Board

There were forthright views on the need to move the SPC Notice board if at all possible – so as to provide easier access to the adjacent flower bed – but where to place it instead?! It seemed there were four options – move it to the right and in front of the existing brick wall (This would need HDC approval and installation of posts) or adapt the existing Large Community Notice Board on the wall to the right of the Bus Shelter, however this would reduce the space available for community groups to advertise their sessions it seemed, or ask HDC to move their ticket machine to the brick wall adjacent the existing Notice board location and use the wall of the Bus Shelter for the SPC Notice Board (behind the machines current location), or not to move the Notice board at all. The favoured suggestion was to definitely move it, and to the position behind the current ticket machine, if at all possible, with the second choice being to move it to the right of its existing position, out of the flower bed, and in front of the brick wall. – It seemed the first necessity was to find out if a movement of the Ticket Machine was possible and could be undertaken by HDC.

3. Shutter installation

No one it seemed really enjoyed entertaining the idea for this installation. There was consequently little discussion about possible types of shutter equipment

4. Disabled Access

The preference from the Premises committee, after they had received engineer drawings, was to reduce the level of the right-hand side of the covered area to the level of the pavement. The raising of the adjacent pavement was nonetheless discussed once more to the left of the building to allow for access this side instead, even though this had previously been dismissed because it was felt that steps would be required and therefore railings and therefore it would detract from the general view of the building. Then came further suggestions as to alternative access routes – either creating an opening via the current Ladies toilet door and knocking down a wall, then rejigging the Disabled toilets into a unisex facility and opening up the spare disabled toilet; or via an archway from the rear of the building but thereby losing the extra Disabled toilet facility. The ideas which included removing some toilet facilities precipitated the redevelopment of the other facilities by necessity – Some suggestions from Cllr Campbell are appended to these notes for your further consideration

5. Recycling Bins

The group all seemed to agree that the bin to the left of the building could be replaced by a recycling bin ASAP. A second Recycling bin could be installed either where the existing second one is or perhaps placed adjacent the Ticket machine if it was to be re-sited as suggested above and if indeed this was agreed by HDC.

6. Installing Art – Murals / Pictures or Framed Art

All options were discussed and prompted by an Ian Ivatt idea for the Grammar school to get involved as they had done successfully in previous years. All thought this was a worthy idea and further the consensus seemed to be that the internal covered area looked 'tired' and needed to be made to look more modern with artwork that could be installed and then protected from damage via Perspex screens. However, before artwork or notice boards were to be installed it was clear that any structural alterations needed to be agreed and completed.

Other Items / Ideas raised, discussed and to be discussed further included:

- Widening the pavement in front of the Bus shelter to include removing the Bus Stop Bay
- Changing the lighting in the Bus Shelter
- Changing the seating in the Bus Shelter
- Changing the colour of the painted walls in the Bus Shelter covered area.
- Installing a water fountain
- Consider where a cycle station could be placed (probably this needs to be considered when the Car Park is renewed by HDC) – but ideas could be presented to them in advance.
- Upgrading the lockable notice boards in the front panels
- Renewing the toilet facilities themselves.
- Reinstalling CCTV
- Upgrading the fenestration
- Rear of the building to be revamped to include better access to the spare disabled toilets – (However it was pointed out that until the Car Park is renewed this would prove impractical due to health and safety reasons)

Below is a before and after plan proposal based upon some of the ideas noted above and formed out of the discussions that took place on the 11th Oct. It's another alternative to the reduced step currently being proposed but hopefully would lessen internal alteration and cost.

Appended is the note produced before the meeting by the Steyning in Bloom group. Also appended are ideas and drawings sent in by Cllr Campbell after the meeting on the 11th for your information