

Fleet Town Centre Improvements

This newsletter is the third in a series to keep residents, local businesses and visitors informed about the progress of the Fleet town centre improvements scheme. In this letter we report on the forthcoming works.

During the works all
local shops will
remain open as usual



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Hampshire County Council has appointed Mildren Construction Ltd as the contractor for the works for the Fleet Town Centre Improvements project which has been in the design process for the past three years. The contract was awarded after a competitive tendering process based on price and quality. The primary aspect of the quality element covered the tenderers proposals for minimising disruption to normal town centre activities during the construction phase. Consideration was also given to sustainability issues and the opportunity to re-cycle existing road and footway materials.

The improvements will make shopping and working in the town centre more attractive and pleasant as well as improving safety of pedestrians and all other road users. The existing parking arrangements will be rationalised and there will be additional

disabled parking bays as well as a new taxi rank.

The contractor proposes to commence works in the week beginning 8th August 2005 and complete within approximately 9 months. All works will cease and temporary traffic management measures removed between 21st November and 2nd January to allow for an unhindered festive shopping period in the town centre.

The aims of the improvements to Fleet town centre are to:

- improve road safety
- lower traffic speeds
- make it easier for pedestrians to cross roads and move around
- provide more facilities for buses
- make shopping and working in the town centre more attractive and pleasant
- strengthen the local economy and attract new businesses



Works Programme

Mildren Construction intends to work from Oatsheaf Junction along Fleet Road towards Birch Avenue. For operational reasons the footpaths are reconstructed first, during which a temporary one-way traffic system will be in operation in Fleet Road between Oatsheaf Junction and Birch Avenue to ensure the safety of the public and the contractor's operatives. A diversion route via Kings Road, Aldershot Road and Reading Road South will be signed. Access to all premises are maintained at all times unless agreed otherwise between the contractor and the affected party.

The reconstruction of the carriageway surfacing will follow the completion of the footway in each section. It is envisaged that during this work sections of Fleet Road will be closed for three short periods. The first period will cover the section between Reading Road South and Victoria Road, the next section is between Victoria Road and Church Road and the final section will be between Church Road and Birch Avenue. The current programme is for the section between Reading Road South and Victoria Road to be complete before Christmas.

A programme will be made available which will identify individual sections of footway and their target completion dates. It is important to realise that the published dates

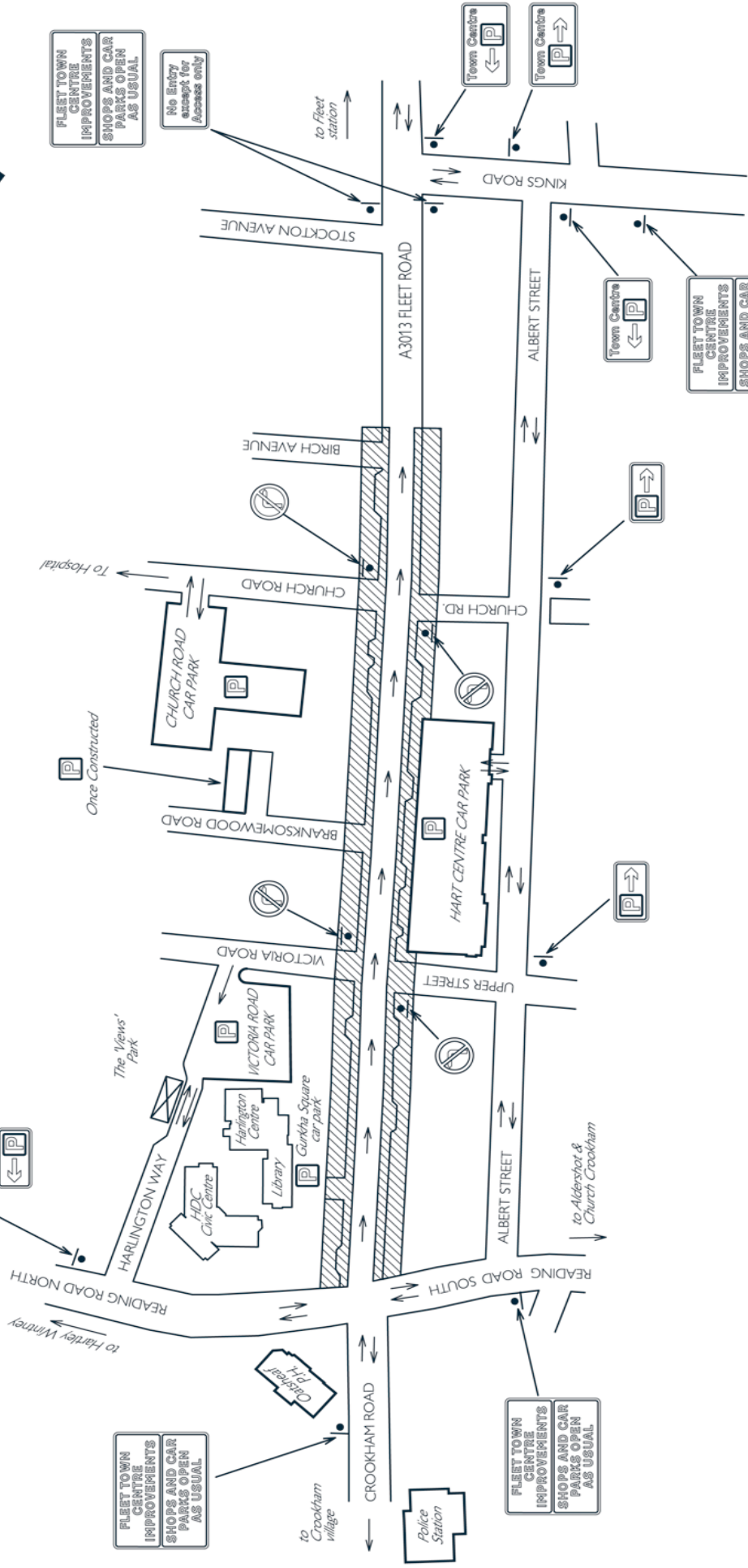


can be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances which may arise during construction works. Street lighting and the installation of new street furniture may be carried out in a different sequence and at different times to the main construction works. In order to expedite the construction and also to minimise the impact of the works on businesses and the general public it is proposed to carry certain operations during some weekends and evenings.

The contractor will provide for the emergency services to reach all parts of Fleet Road at all times during the works. Access for deliveries to all premises in Fleet Road will be maintained. All businesses are expected to remain open and operate as usual.



CAR PARK LOCATIONS



Key
 [Hatched Box] Extents of footway works
 [Arrow] Direction of traffic

FLEET TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS SHOPS AND CAR PARKS OPEN AS USUAL

No Entry except for Access only

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FLEET TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

Not to Scale



Off-street Car Parks

As part of the improvements, Hart District Council will be providing additional parking spaces in the existing Victoria Road car park and in the new car park off Branksomewood Road.

Victoria Road car park now includes more disabled and cycle parking, a short-stay only area, and some parent and child parking – a first for Hart.

Intended particularly for shoppers, the new car park off Branksomewood Road is conveniently located very close to the town centre shops. It will provide 20 short-stay spaces for stays of up to 30 minutes, and will include two disabled spaces.



Further information

Plans and programmes will be on display in the reception at Hart District Council offices and at the Contractor's offices located in Church Road Car Park.

If you would like to find out more about the Fleet town centre improvements:

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