

Chepstow Society – Town Planning Roundup for July and August 2021

Simon Maddison, 15th August 2021

Introduction

This is a brief summary of items from July and August.

Town Pavements

Some of you may have seen the report that I generated on Chepstow's pavements last year. It highlighted the damage and poor reinstatement to the town's very nice stone pavements that have accumulated over the years when they have been removed to lay utilities. It created something of a stir in the town and county councils, and I now understand that the MCC has undertaken to make good the damage at some point in the not-too-distant future. Hopefully.

In my view the problem is the lack of inspection by the council post works and a total lack of enforcement on utility contractors to make good and reinstate to the standard prior to digging up the pavement. The thing that spurred me to undertake the survey was seeing contractors in the lower part of St Mary Street replacing lifted York Stone paving slabs with tarmac.

The problem has not gone away. We passed contractors laying services under the pavement outside the Police Station, and guess what, they replaced the stone paving with a concrete paving slab.

At least they did not leave the other stone slabs chipped and cracked and loose which has happened in so many other places in the town. And they did not use tarmac either.





Station footbridge

The station footbridge, which was removed for refurbishment and repair earlier this year, has now been replaced. When we saw it in July, they were still doing finishing works to it, but it does look a lot better, and cared for, than it did before.





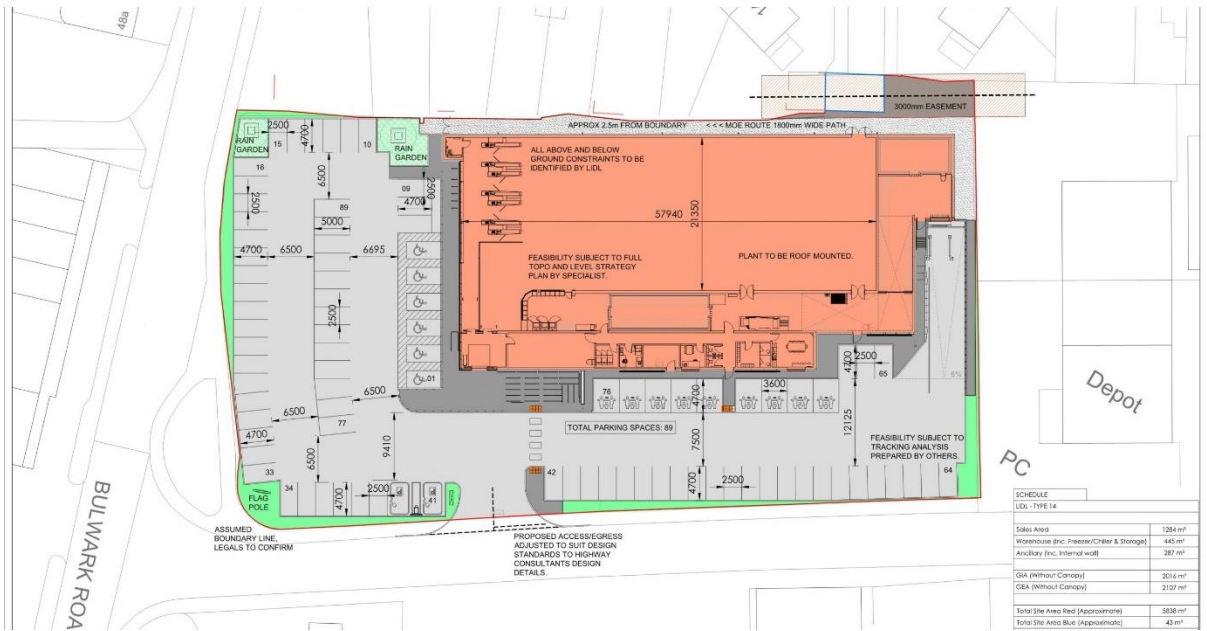
Severn Bridge Social Club

There has been a lot of concern in Bulwark about the fate of the Severn Bridge Social Club. Hoardings were put up around the site last month, but there has not as yet been any formal submission of a planning application. However, the Town Council did receive a notification from a developer about planned proposals for the site. I believe that this was discussed at a Town Council meeting last month.

The proposal was submitted on behalf of Lidl to demolish the club and build a new Lidl store on the site. The documents are available on:

<https://consultations.tetratecheurope.com/consultations/bulwark-road-chepstow/>

Consultation has now closed, but of course it will be possible to submit comments once the planning application once it has been submitted. There is no indication of what the plans are for the existing Lidl building. Some images from the proposals are attached.



Proposed plan for the site



Street views

Brunel Quarter

Viewings for properties in the Brunel Quarter, on the old shipyard site, have been running for a while now. You can also walk around the parts of the site that have been completed. A variety of different properties are on the market. Access is off Station Road and under the bridge behind Tesco.