

# Twickenham Rediscovered Community Space and Diamond Jubilee Gardens Workshop Feedback

*Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016*

# Table 1 Feedback

# Session 1 – What is Community Space?

1. King Street

2. Riverside

- Is there an adjustment option on space/location outside Gardens?
- Enjoyment of open space
- People can come together
- Keep community ties

# Session 2 – How could community space be used on the site?

## Want

Café – leads onto garden  
Restaurant on riverside  
River related activities for families  
Community for all ages  
Boat houses  
Place to meet and socialise  
Play ball at lunchtime  
Need shade cover  
Market square/guildhall archway  
Community uses live in the area/river – link river walk routes, how it connects  
Opportunity for community type organisations on the river – jetty boats come and go – ensures people use the river  
King Street – extend medieval architecture  
Visual connection to the river  
Free access

## Don't Want

Big building  
No big block to river activity  
No private space or gated access  
No block of flats  
No swimming pool  
Quinlan & Francis Terry  
No amphitheatre

## Can't Agree

Multipurpose – work, gardens, fluidity  
Green open space  
Protect riverside and integrate gardens  
Eel Pie Island Museum  
Hire boat home – paddle boards  
Hire bikes  
Take river to town  
Open air exhibition  
Town square – not on garden  
No regular markets i.e. farmers  
  
Flexible open space for multi-uses (not hard landscaping and equipment)

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like? (1)

## Likes

- Informal and relaxed
- Feel close to the riverside
- Use on the riverside
- Subtle water features
- Town square

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like? (2)

Greenery, informal. Link to a style along the river



Nice, modern, Tate.  
Greenery. Limited hard-  
landscaping. Defined  
square, low-tech

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like? (3)

## Dislikes

- Not too hard or urban
- Not over grown with wild greenery
- No swimming pool
- No big blocks



# Session 3 – What could this community space look like? (4)

Can't Agree

Defined square – too much private housing



Building too dominant in centre

Relaxed green, low key

\*This is a small selection of the photos studied by the group. The full set will be shared with the relevant team



## Table 2: Feedback

# Session 1 – What is Community Space?

- Somewhere where there are no barriers to public access – it must be accessible and cater for all
- Not commercial spaces
- A destination – something which draws you in e.g. the river, a water fountain, sculpture
- Whatever is done must be beautiful – that is why people come to Twickenham
- The focal point must be the river
- A balance between buildings and open space
- Number of community buildings already exist?
- Preference for open community space (e.g. town square) – this could be covered over the top but be open at the side
- Importance of trees
- No Roman amphitheatre

# Session 2 – How could community space be used on the site?

## Want

Boat houses – paddle boarding

Extension of open space – quiet space

Adventure centre – line of funding from the Duke of Edinburgh

## Don't Want

Roman amphitheatre – inappropriate

Block of flats/housing

Gabriel's Wharf style development

## Can't Agree

Eel Pie Island Music Museum

Events

Location of parking

Financial viability of open space

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like?

- Hard landscaping with trees – no grass
- No gravel – need to have something that can be jet washed and kept clean easily
- Links together – open, outward looking, pockets of outside space
- Grass on Richmond riverside in the summer turns brown and dry – we do not want this in Twickenham
- A water feature that could be turned off and on
- Careful choice of stone used – non-porous paving
- Expertly-lit area to enhance beauty of site
- CCTV needed – want young people to feel safe
- Raised beds with flowers and hanging baskets to define the edge of the space
- Mixed opinion on whether there should be markets in this space
- Problems with steps to the Gardens at the moment

# Likes



# Dislikes



\*This is a small selection of the photos studied by the group. The full set will be shared with the relevant team

# Table 3 Feedback

# Session 1 – What is Community Space?

- Chosen by the people of Twickenham – brief and architect – demonstrating that our views are listened to
- Free at the point of access
- Accessible (physically) and welcoming to all ages
- Connectivity and a space that encourages people to use it (e.g. Trafalgar Square)
- Other comments included:
  - A space which the community decide on (not two people who live outside the area)
  - A space that is used freely, frequently by all – the whole community (different ages, those living with disabilities etc.)
  - A space that people are content to share. A space shared by lots of different people
  - Something that all generations enjoy, for example I am 14 and I like it here and my Dad is 50 and he likes it
  - A space which enhances and gives access to adjacent community spaces – in this case the riverside
  - Multiple entrances and exists to walk through (safely)
  - Retail (e.g. shops) is not community space. Open space and enclosed space but not retail
  - Something which does not include luxury flats, offices and retail outlets
  - A space defined by trees – natural, not buildings
  - As a resident, I wish to use the space without spoiling the space
  - A space that is quiet without activities
  - Relaxation and enjoyment. A space for relaxation, art, music, enjoyment of environment
  - For example – Trafalgar Square, Italian Piazza, a public space, free entry, freely enjoyed by everyone



# Session 2 – How could community space be used on the site?

## Want

- Open Space
- Access to the river
- Easy maintenance / upkeep (it needs to continue looking good)
- Mini-temporary markets (pop-ups) e.g. farmers markets
- Contemporary design
- Responding to context – the river
- Family space – a town square
- Glass contemporary buildings for indoor activities
- Glass structures to reflect the river

## Don't Want

- Francis Terry
- Retail
- Luxury flats
- What Twickenham already has – shops, cafes, flats
- Piecemeal approach

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like?

- Less is more e.g. Coram's field
- Town square (big enough to play 5-a-side football) – size is important
- Integration of spaces – links and views through



Wild and wet



# Table 4 Feedback

# Session 1 – What is Community Space?

- Retain peaceful and tranquil qualities of the riverside, feeding the ducks etc.
- Performance space
- Space for children and families
- Should be a focus for the area a “central hub”; a “gathering place” somewhere to “celebrate the river”
- Can we create a public space along the lines of Tide Tables in Richmond – which is public and where people can sit either with or without a café purchase, but which is a lovely setting all year round for people to enjoy the river
- Well sited cafés
- Sunshine café not very attractive
- Champions wharf very well used – so clearly there is scope to provide good well sited facilities for families
- A public house (to compete with the Barmy Arms)
- River boat launch
- Space for larger events – but would need toilets

# Session 2 – How could community space be used on the site?

## Want

Toilets

Café/alcohol

Water feature

Pleasure boat landing stage connecting London through to Hampton Court (subject to tidal restrictions)

Boat activity/hire

Inlet cut out of river between river and Diamond Jubilee Gardens (ex car park) for open water swimming within

Town square

Space to store chairs and benches for evening events

Water supply for small classical music events

## Don't Want

Charity shops, hairdressers and estate agents

## Can't Agree

Pub

Artist studios

Open water swimming

Retractable canopy

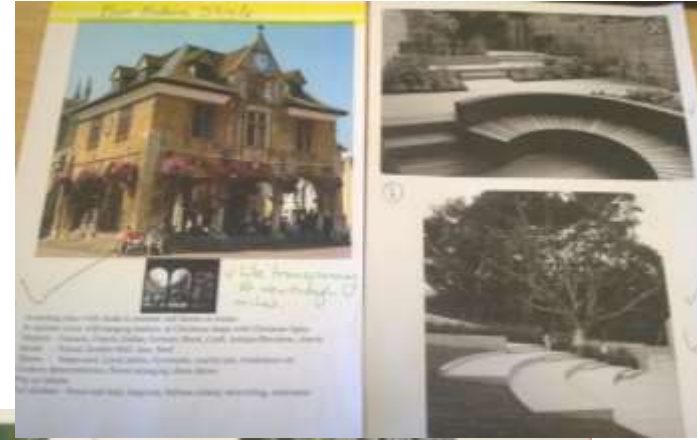
Who will pay for the upkeep of the area?

As recommended by Pevsner: above all, conserve lanes around St. Mary's. Above all again, think of children and young parents

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like? (1)

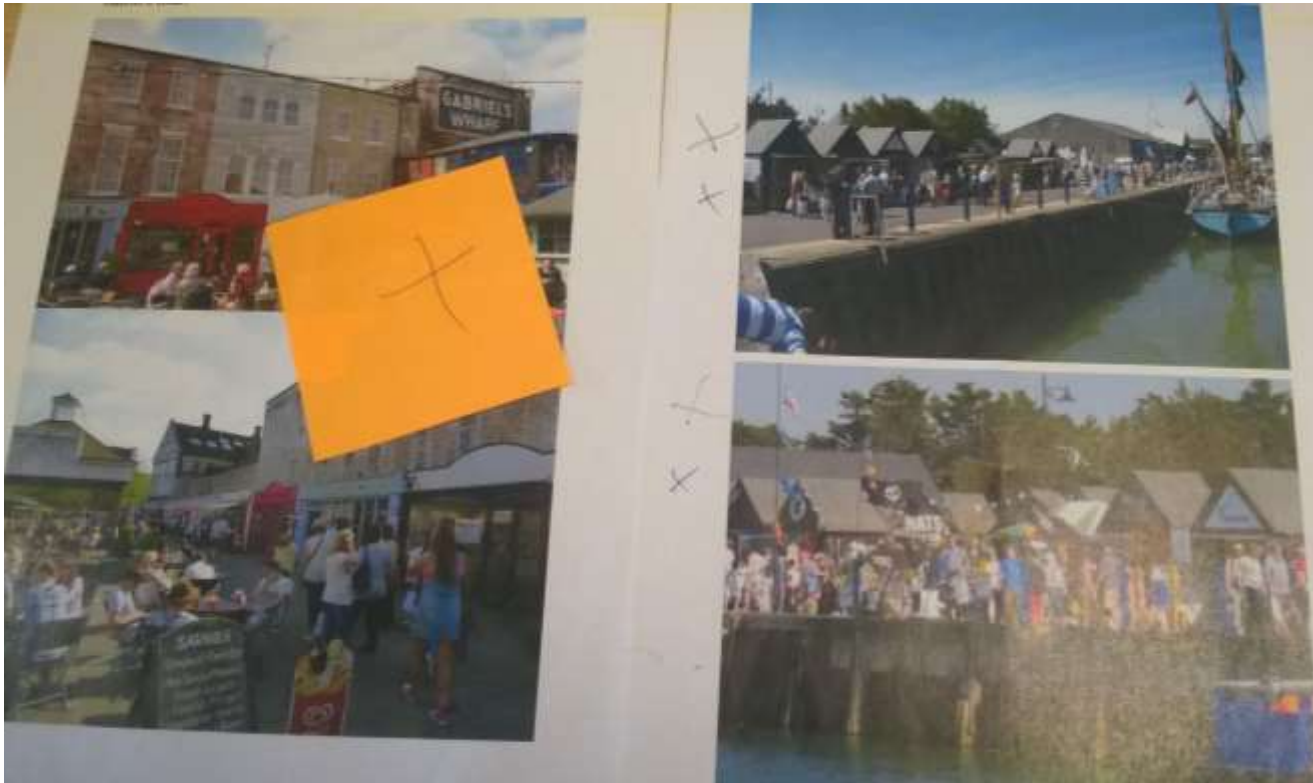
## Likes

- Improved children's play area, more integrated into DJG and the site as a whole
- More modern style
- Like transparency of through views



# Session 3 – What could this community space look like? (2)

## Dislikes



# Table 5 Feedback



# Session 1 – What is Community Space?

- What is a town square?
- Focal point
- Refers to buildings
- Buildings define square and contain
- Soft / hard landscaping
- Formal / informal
- Maximise open space
- Multi-functional space
- Outdoor areas with sky above
- Covered areas – possibly buildings above
- Overall vision
- Internal spaces dedicated to community use e.g. charity use

# Session 2 – How could community space be used on the site?

## Want

Practical use of the river (e.g. overlooking river)

Artisan workshops

Play area(s)

Mix of hard or soft areas

Water features

Features to attract people to Twickenham

24 hour access and visible security

Strong pedestrian links across the site

Easier access for those with physical disabilities

Link Diamond Jubilee Gardens into a formal village square

Possibility of parking underground

Regular and bespoke events

## Don't Want

Overground parking on the community area specifically

Amphitheatre

Shops

Arcades

## Can't Agree

Multifunctional (e.g. farmers markets)

Housing

Bicycle hire

Pier

Widen Water Lane

Extend Gardens to the river

# Session 3 – What could this community space look like?



## Likes

- Village square
- Seating?
- Development - disagree

# Other comments

- Many of the same people are coming along to all of the workshops – means it's not inclusive