Manchester City Council

Gorton Public Square

Design & Access Statement

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DATE: 26TH July 2024
Rev: P01



HALLIDAY MEECHAM ARCHITECTS

dep LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

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Rev	Description	Issued By	Checked	Date
P01	DAS Report	EA	TF	26.07.24

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Author	Signature	Date
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1.0

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Design and Access Statement has been prepared to support a full planning application for the conversion of the TESCO / Gorton Market car park into a public realm, new chicane access into the car park and outdoor cafe terrace. The proposals presented are associated with the north car park adjacent to the Garratt Way.

The redevelopment of the TESCO car park into a public informal square is divided into separate zones, each contributing to a vibrant and multi-functional community space. The wildlife zone offers a lush, natural retreat with diverse plants, pathways, and eco-friendly elements, providing a serene escape from urban life. Adjacent is the Social/Communal Area,designed for gatherings and events, featuring interactive installations and varied seating to encourage community interaction. At the heart of the square, the Focal Point showcases a majestic Christmas tree and bespoke light projections during festive seasons, serving as a dynamic and visually striking centerpiece. Connecting all zones, the Walking Path is a network of well-lit, scenic walkways that enhance accessibility and promote leisurely exploration. The Navigation/Meeting Area serves as a key reference point and educational hub, displaying Gorton's rich heritage through informational exhibits and historical markers.

Nearby, the Café Terrace offers a delightful outdoor dining experience with a range of seating options and charming ambiance created by planters and shaded areas. The Market Stall Area is a bustling marketplace featuring modular stalls for local vendors, supporting small businesses and artisans with a vibrant shopping environment.

Lastly, the Relaxing Seating Space provides a peaceful retreat for different type of visitors, offering comfortable, ergonomic seating in a tranquil setting with shaded areas and calming landscaping. Together, these zones create a dynamic and inclusive public square that caters to diverse community needs, fostering social interaction, cultural enrichment, and relaxation.



Figure 1 - TESCO Car Park and Manchester Gorton Market on the side (west) elevation.

2.0

2.0 THE SITE
2.1 Site Location

Gorton District Centre,
Garratt Way,
Manchester,
M18 8LD

The existing market building is located within Gorton near the National Speedway Stadium. The current entrance to the Market is within the TESCO car park as well as the rear entrance on Garrat way and side entrance facing the retail shop. The car park is used for both TESCO and the Gorton Market.



Figure 2 - Aerial 3D View of Manchester Gorton Market, (Google Maps 26.07.24).



Figure 3 - Aerial 2D View of the TESCO car park,(Google Maps 26.07.24).

2.0 THE SITE
2.2 Project Brief

The proposals put forward in this application address key subjects outlined by the client within the project brief. The main project scope aims to create flexible, attractive, and low-maintenance areas for the local community and visitors.

The scope of the works is as follows :

•Create vehicular access to/from Garratt Way (in line with MCC's highway requirements/specifications if required).
•Take up existing tarmac, kerbs etc to the whole area (circa 1900m2) including some works to the public footpath and resurfacing of the new access road.
•Review levels and access into the market hall.
•Include allowance for mature trees and associated tree pits.
•Include new kerb/ material lines to separate main car park and new access road from Public Square (approx. 25 linear m).
•Create infrastructure to support use of demountable structures and canopies.
•Install new external lighting and signage.
•Include new street furniture including bins and concrete benches/tables.
•Undertake signing and lining of Tesco car park as required to reconfigure spaces.
•Public consultation: the contractor and their design team will allow for attendance at two public consultation events and for the design and production of associated collateral (i.e.. consultation boards).
•Take up existing tarmac, kerbs etc to the whole area (circa 1900m2) including some works to the public footpath and resurfacing of the new access road.
•Review levels and access into the market hall.
•Include allowance for mature trees and associated tree pits.
•Include new kerb/ material lines to separate main car park and new access road from Public Square (approx. 25 linear m).
•Create infrastructure to support use of demountable structures and canopies.
•Install new external lighting and signage.
•Include new street furniture including bins and concrete benches/tables.
•Undertake signing and lining of Tesco car park as required to reconfigure spaces.
•Public consultation: the contractor and their design team will allow for attendance at two public consultation events and for the design and production of associated collateral (i.e.. consultation boards).



Figure 4- Market junction between South-East facade.



Figure 5- Rear parking bays on the market south facade.



Figure 6 - Existing external ramp to access market side (west) elevation.



Figure 7 - Car park entrance from Garratt way.

2.0 THE SITE

2.3 Site Constraints

The main constraints of the design relate to the project being in an existing car park. This includes the ability to adequately access the site without making it more contested than the existing conditions.

The proposed development has been through a thorough design development process taking into account pedestrians and vehicular access to the site and the requirements of key stakeholders. The proposed development has carefully considered the following constraints:

•**Space Limitations:** The existing footprint of the TESCO car park sets a fixed boundary for redevelopment. Managing spatial constraints involves optimizing the design to accommodate all planned zones efficiently without overcrowding, ensuring each section from the Greenery Zone to the Mature Seating Space is functional and accessible.

•**Traffic and Accessibility:** Being part of a district centre, the site is likely to experience significant vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Ensuring safe and efficient traffic flow around and within the redevelopment area is crucial. This includes considering entry and exit points for both vehicles and pedestrians, and possibly reconfiguring surrounding traffic patterns to accommodate new uses.

•**Community Impact:** The redevelopment will affect local residents, businesses, and visitors. Engaging with the community to assess their needs and concerns is vital. This involves managing noise during construction, maintaining aesthetic appeal, and ensuring that the new square adds value to the community without causing significant disruption.

2.4 SIte Visit

During our site visit to the TESCO car park at Gorton District Centre, we encountered a day when the local market was particularly vibrant, spilling outdoors and covering much of the assigned space. This formal expansion of the market activities gave the site a congested appearance, which initially posed a concern for managing such high levels of foot traffic and activity. However, this scene also highlighted how well-utilised the space was by the local community, showcasing the car park as a vital hub of social and economic interaction.

Throughout the visit, we closely observed the building and the layout of the car park. Special attention was paid to the patterns of movement and behaviour of the people navigating through the space. This was crucial as it provided us with valuable insights into how different areas of the car park were used at various times of the day. The dense flow of people around the market stalls, in particular, revealed natural pathways and gathering spots, which informed our design rationale.

By understanding these organic movement patterns, we were able to conceptualise zones in our redevelopment plan that would enhance natural flows, improve accessibility, and encourage further community engagement in a more organised yet inviting manner. This understanding is instrumental in ensuring that our design not only revitalises the space but also respects and enhances the existing dynamics of the community's usage of the area.



Figure 8 - Existing pavement and bollards on the perimeter of the market.



Figure 9 - Market entrance from the Garratt way road (north).



Figure 10 - Existing side pavement.



Figure 11- Pedestrain zebra crossing leading to market entrance.

3.0

3.0 DESIGN STRATEGY

3.1 Use

The proposed use of the site is to transform a car park into a vibrant, multi-functional public square. The redesign aims to cater to various community needs including recreation, social gatherings, and cultural events. The square will feature distinct zones such as a Greenery Zone, Social/Communal Area, Café Terrace, and Market Stall Area, each designed to support specific activities and enhance community engagement.

3.2 Amount

The amount of development pertains to the degree of change in land use from a parking facility to a public square. The project will involve the complete conversion of the existing car park area, utilizing the entire site footprint to accommodate the planned zones and infrastructure. This includes areas for seating, walking paths, market stalls, and landscaping, all carefully measured to balance open space with functional use areas.

3.3 Layout

The layout is strategically planned to optimize the use of space and promote fluid movement throughout the square. The design incorporates interconnected pathways linking different zones, with clear, accessible routes for pedestrians. Each zone is placed to ensure visibility and accessibility, with consideration for natural light and flow patterns observed during the site visit. The layout also includes provisions for emergency access and services integration without compromising the aesthetic or functional aspects of the square.

3.4 Scale

The scale of the redevelopment is in harmony with the surrounding environment, ensuring that the new structures and installations do not overpower the existing urban landscape. Elements like market stalls and café terraces are designed to be low-rise, complementing rather than dominating the skyline. The scale is carefully considered to maintain a human-centric design, with structures that are approachable and appropriately sized for community use.

3.5 Fenestration

For the redevelopment of the public square, fenestration is carefully considered to enhance the interplay between indoor and outdoor spaces, particularly focusing on the façade facing the Café Terrace. New doors and windows are integrated into this façade to maximize natural light penetration into the indoor market area. This strategic placement not only promotes better quality of lighting but also facilitates visual connectivity between the indoor spaces and the vibrant outdoor café and market areas. The design ensures that these openings contribute to a welcoming atmosphere, encouraging flow and interaction across the square, and enhancing the overall user experience by blending the boundaries between inside and outside environments.



Figure 12 - 3D Conceptual Illustration.

4.0

4.0 PROPOSED DESIGN

4.1 Design Rationale

In developing the design for the public square at the Gorton District Centre, a collaborative effort between DEP (Landscape Architects) and HMA (our firm) was pivotal. Both teams worked closely, balancing the client's specific requests with a responsive design approach tailored to the site's natural functions and usage patterns. Through careful observation and analysis during our site visit, we gained insights into how people interact with the space, which directly influenced our planning and design decisions.

Additionally, extensive desktop studies were conducted to further inform our design process. These studies allowed us to gather and analyse historical data, existing site conditions, and relevant urban planning precedents. This research was crucial in developing a coherent urban zone strategy that integrates seamlessly with the proposed public square. Each zone within the square is designed to not only fulfil a specific function but also to work in harmony with the others, creating a cohesive and functional public space that meets the needs of the community and enhances the local urban fabric. This systematic approach ensured that every aspect of the square's design was thoughtfully considered, making the space both aesthetically pleasing and highly functional.

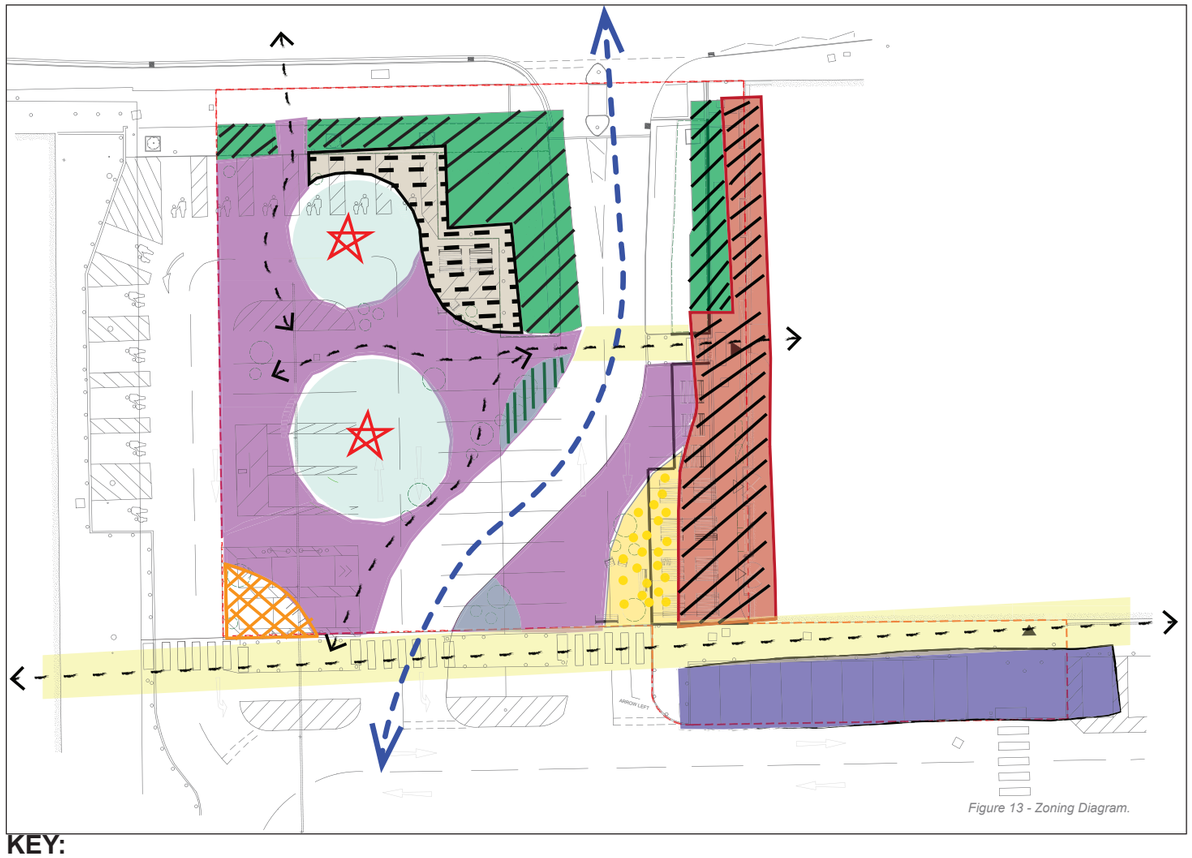


Figure 13 - Zoning Diagram.

KEY:

ZONE 1 - Wildlife Sensory Planting Area

ZONE 2 - Social / Communal Area

ZONE 3 - Focal Points

ZONE 4 - Transition and Circulation Area

ZONE 5 - Navigation & Meeting Area

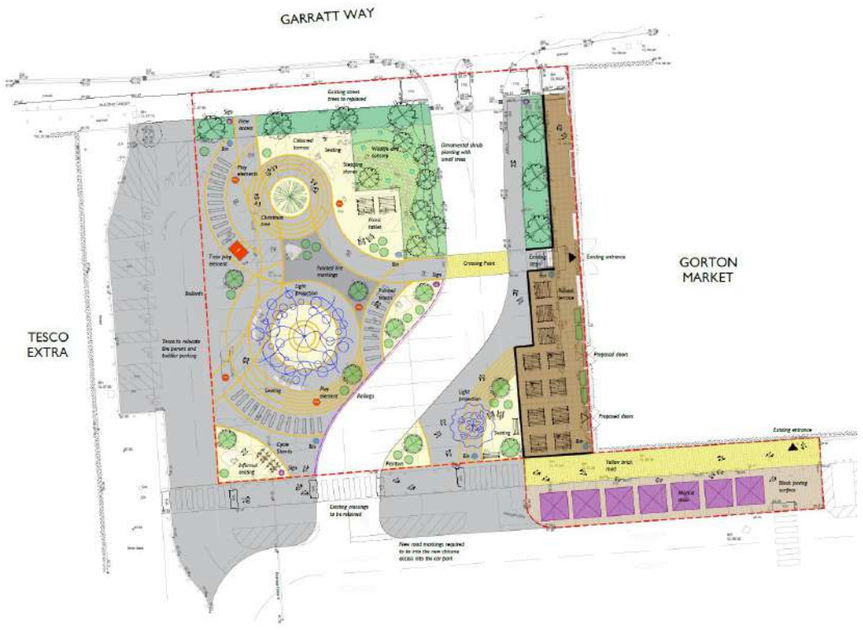
ZONE 6 - Cafe Terrace

ZONE 7 - Market Stall Area

ZONE 8 - Relaxing / Quiet Area

4.0 PROPOSED DESIGN

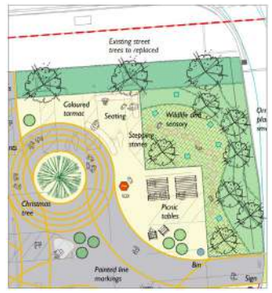
GORTON PUBLIC SQUARE ZONES



The redevelopment of the TESCO car park into a public informal square is divided into eight distinct zones, each contributing to a vibrant and multifunctional community space. The Greenery Zone offers a lush, natural retreat with diverse plants, pathways, and eco-friendly elements, providing a serene escape from urban life. Adjacent is the Social/Communal Area, designed for gatherings and events, featuring interactive installations and varied seating to encourage community interaction. At the heart of the square, the Focal Point showcases a majestic Christmas tree and bespoke light projections during festive seasons, serving as a dynamic and visually striking centrepiece. Connecting all zones, the Walking Path is a network of well-lit, scenic walkways that enhance accessibility and promote leisurely exploration.

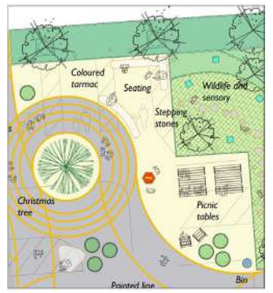
The Navigation & Meeting Area serves as a key reference point and educational hub, displaying Gorton's rich heritage through informational exhibits and historical markers. Nearby, the Café Terrace offers a delightful outdoor dining experience with a range of seating options and charming ambiance created by planters and shaded areas. The Market Stall Area is a bustling marketplace featuring modular stalls for local vendors, supporting small businesses and artisans with a vibrant shopping environment. Lastly, the Mature Seating Space provides a peaceful retreat for middle-aged and elderly visitors, offering comfortable, ergonomic seating in a tranquil setting with shaded areas and calming landscaping. Together, these zones create a dynamic and inclusive public square that caters to diverse community needs, fostering social interaction, cultural enrichment, and relaxation.

- ZONE 1 - WILDLIFE SENSORY PLANTING AREA



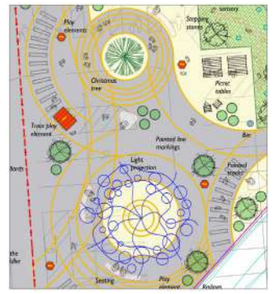
Zone 1 - Greenery Zone: This lush, verdant space will feature a diverse array of trees, shrubs, and flowers, creating a serene, park-like atmosphere, which also works as a buffer zone to block out the noise of the car flow moving in and out of the car park. Benches and picnic areas provide spots for relaxation and meditation. This zone also includes eco-friendly elements listed in the MCC sustainability statement such as the rain native plants, enhancing biodiversity and sustainability. It's a perfect mini-escape from urban life, offering a tranquil visual environment for rest and rejuvenation.

- ZONE 2 - SOCIAL & COMMUNAL AREA



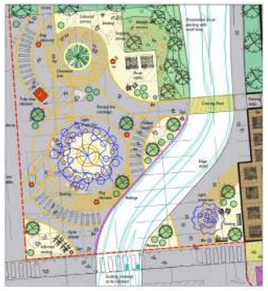
Zone 2 - Social / Communal Area: Designed as a vibrant hub, this area will host gatherings and social activities. It features a mix of seating options, including benches and communal tables, encouraging interaction among visitors. Interactive installations add a playful element, while open spaces allow for flexible use. This zone is ideal for community events, performances, and casual meetups, fostering a sense of community and engagement within the square. As well as serving as a monitoring area for parents looking over the shoulder of their kids running up and down into the public space.

- ZONE 3 - FOCAL POINTS



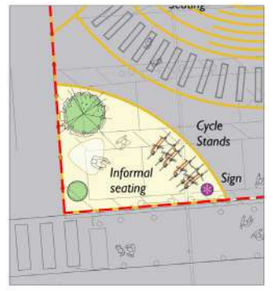
Zone 3 - Focal Point: At the heart of the square, this zone will be the centrepiece during festive seasons, especially Christmas. It features a majestic Christmas tree and bespoke light projections, creating a magical atmosphere. Throughout the year, this space can host various focal displays, such as art installations or seasor decorations, making it a dynamic and ever-changing highlight of tl square. It serves as a natural gathering point and a visual anchor for visitors. This zone also suits teenagers and young adults who want to sit around and spend time with friends.

- ZONE 4 - TRANSITION & CIRCULATION AREA



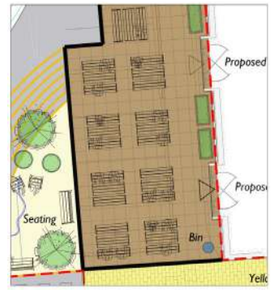
Zone 4 - Walking Path: A network of well-designed walkways connects all key zones, ensuring easy navigation and accessibility. The paths are wide and well-defined when looking at the painted railway track lanes, with clear signage to guide visitors. They are also lined with decorative elements like planters and light fixtures, enhancing the walking experience. This zone also includes rest/ seating areas and viewpoints, allowing visitors to pause and enjoy the surroundings. It's designed for strolls, promoting movement and exploration throughout the square.

- ZONE 5 - NAVIGATION & MEETING AREA



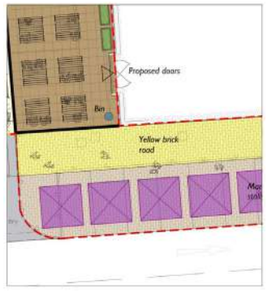
Zone 5 - Navigation / Historical Area: This zone serves as a prominent reference point and a meeting place. It features informational displays and historical markers that showcase the rich heritage of Gorton. Visitors can learn about the town's history through interactive exhibits and interpretive signage. The area includes distinctive architectural elements or sculptures that reflect local history, making it both educational and visually appealing. It's a key spot for orientation and cultural enrichment.

- ZONE 6 - CAFE TERRACE



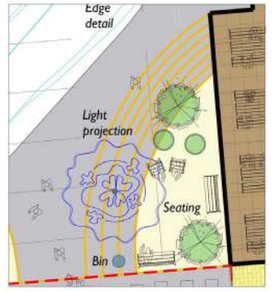
Zone 6 - Café Terrace: An inviting space dedicated to outdoor dining, this zone features a variety of seating options, from small tables for intimate gatherings to larger communal setups. Visitors can now walk outside the market into a newly raised terraced with an extended view over the public square. Shaded areas with umbrellas for dry and wet seasons provide comfort, while planters and decorative elements create a charming ambience. This zone perfect for enjoying a coffee, meal, or snack in a relaxed, open-air environment, especially for the market customers.

- ZONE 7 - MARKET STALL AREA



Zone 7 - Market Stall Area: A dynamic and bustling zone designed to host market stalls and local vendors. This area includes modular stalls that can be easily set up and taken down, providing flexibility for different events and markets. It features a linear corridor for movement and browsing, with designated areas for food trucks and pop-up shops. The market zone supports local businesses and artisans, creating a vibrant marketplace atmosphere where visitors can shop for fresh produce, handmade goods, and unique items.

- ZONE 8 - RELAXING & QUITE AREA



Zone 8 - Mature Seating Space: A peaceful retreat designed for different varietry of vistors, this zone offers comfortable seating in a tranquil setting. It features ergonomic benches and chairs arranged to provide excellent views of the square while ensuring privacy and quiet. Calming landscaping, including water features and aromatic plants, enhances the serene atmosphere. It's an ideal spot for relaxation, conversation, and enjoying the beauty of the new public square one step away from the heart of the redevelopment.

4.0 PROPOSED DESIGN

4.2 Appearance

The appearance of the redesigned public square is crafted to reflect a modern yet timeless aesthetic that complements the existing urban fabric of Gorton District Centre. The design employs a palette of natural materials, including stone, wood, and green plantings, to create a cohesive and inviting environment. Architectural elements like the façade of the market area and the structures within the café terrace are designed with clean, contemporary lines that maintain visual simplicity. Colour schemes are selected to enhance the sense of space and to harmonize with the natural surroundings, incorporating earth tones and subtle greens. Lighting is strategically used not only for functionality but also to enhance the square's visual appeal during evening hours, highlighting key features like the market stalls and communal areas. Overall, the appearance of the square is designed to be visually engaging and aesthetically pleasing, serving as a landmark of community pride and a rejuvenated public space.

4.3 Proposed Materials

In the redevelopment of the Gorton District Centre public square, a careful selection of materials has been undertaken to align with sustainability goals while ensuring durability and aesthetic coherence. The proposed materiality includes locally sourced natural stone for paving, which offers resilience and a visually appealing texture that complements the urban setting. Reclaimed wood is utilized for benches and signage, adding warmth and character to the space, and promoting material reuse. Additionally, green construction methods are prioritized, with the use of low-VOC (volatile organic compounds) paints and energy-efficient building materials to ensure a healthier environment for the community. This thoughtful approach to material selection not only enhances the functionality and visual appeal of the square but also supports local industries and minimizes the project's carbon footprint.



Figure 14 - Wooden steps in the wildlife sensory area



Figure 15 - Outdoor seating spaces for pincinc and social gathering.



Figure 16 - Gobo lighting..

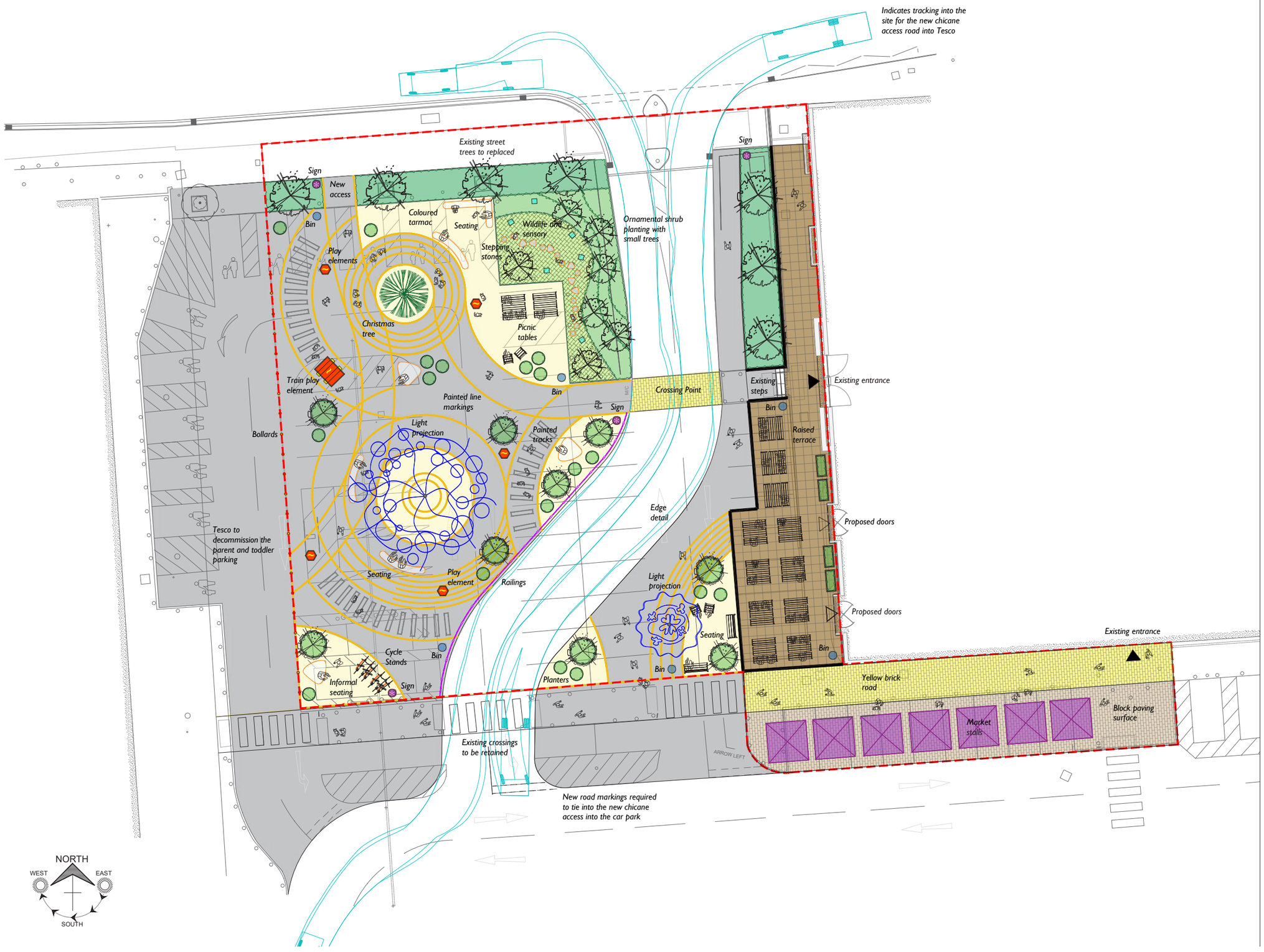


Figure 17 - Variety of spaces for social gatherings.



Figure 18 - Extensive white lining defining spaces and travel pathways.

4.0 PROPOSED DESIGN



KEY

Soft Landscape Treatments

- Proposed Trees to be planted within the development to include a mixture of formal street trees, native trees and wildlife beneficial trees.
- Proposed Trees within planters to include small growing multi-stemmed ornamentals for seasonal interest.
- Proposed Structured shrub planting along the road frontage to comprises low maintenance, flowering species to add colour and visual interest to the streetscene.
- Proposed Ornamental shrub planting within the development to comprises low growing shrubs, herbaceous perennials and grasses that are drought tolerant and wildlife beneficial.
- Proposed Wildlife/Sensory planting within the development to comprises playful and colourful species which are textured and scented and attractive to wildlife such as bees and butterflies.
- Proposed Planters to comprise fixed 2m and 1m diameter planters to provide height and interest within the development. To be planted with drought tolerant species.
- Proposed Christmas Tree to comprise a real mature tree set within the hard landscape and planted into an underground tree cell system to provide a suitable growing environment.

Hard Landscape Treatments

- Feature block paving outside of the existing market entrance to comprise blocks in two different colours as shown, with the 'yellow' brick road depicting the main pedestrian route between the market and Tesco.
- Feature tiles to the existing ramped access leading to the new raised terrace for the new outdoor dining area off the market.
- Tarmac surface to have the line markings removed/ replaced and areas within the main development to be resurfaced ready for the new feature yellow markings.
- Yellow thermoplastic line markings to create patterns in the landscape to create movement and playful elements in the development.
- Light coloured thermoplastic line markings to depict a railway track thorough the development as a playful interactive element.
- Coloured tarmac in a light colour to depict the feature seating areas to be installed with a flexible aluminum edge to create sweeping curves.

Boundaries

- Metal railings/ Pedestrian barrier to direct pedestrian traffic to the safe crossing points to help reduce conflicts between people and vehicles.
- Raised terrace to be defined with a low brick wall and metal railings to match the pedestrian railings as described above.
- Bollards to be installed between the Tesco site and the development to define the boundaries and protect pedestrians until future engagement with Tesco about the future use of the parent and toddler space.

Street Furniture

- Timber and metal picnic style tables and benches for the cafe terrace and the family area in the main square.
- Timber and metal benches and single seats with back and arm rests for inclusive and social seating suitable for the elderly.
- Concrete seating within the main square to be set around the focal points to be robust seating options suitable for several people during an event or gathering.
- Informal seating/ artistic feature elements for the more transient/ circulation areas to provide short term seating options.
- Feature bike racks with an artistic element to provide short stay secure cycle parking options for when people visit the square or Tesco.
- Bin — Robust concrete/ metal bins to be provided around the main circulation paths and on the cafe terrace. Final specification subject to discussion with the council refuse team.
- Sign — Waymarker signs to be installed at the main pedestrian junctions to help people navigate through the site and to provide information.

Features

- Stepping stones within the wildlife/ sensory area to provide an informal playful element within the development and to encourage natural play and interaction with the natural landscape.
- Habitat features for example, insect and solitary bee houses, bird boxes, log piles or hedgehog house.
- Play elements within the landscape to include interactive play pillars, small equipment, elements to stimulate creative and interactive play. Subject to detailed design and discussions with the council.
- Play element as an interactive play feature to represent a train (Gorton Tank), subject to detailed design and discussions with the council.
- Light columns to be fitted with a Gobo projector to cast interesting artistic patterns on the landscape, final deigns and colours to be agreed.
- Indicates the positions of the temporary outdoor market stalls.

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Client: Manchester City Council

Project: Gorton Market

Description: Landscape Sketch Scheme

Status: For Comments

Scale: 1:200@A2 | Drawn: KR/NN/EP

Job number: 5493 | Drawing number: 01 | Date: Jun 24 | Revision: C

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4.0 PROPOSED DESIGN

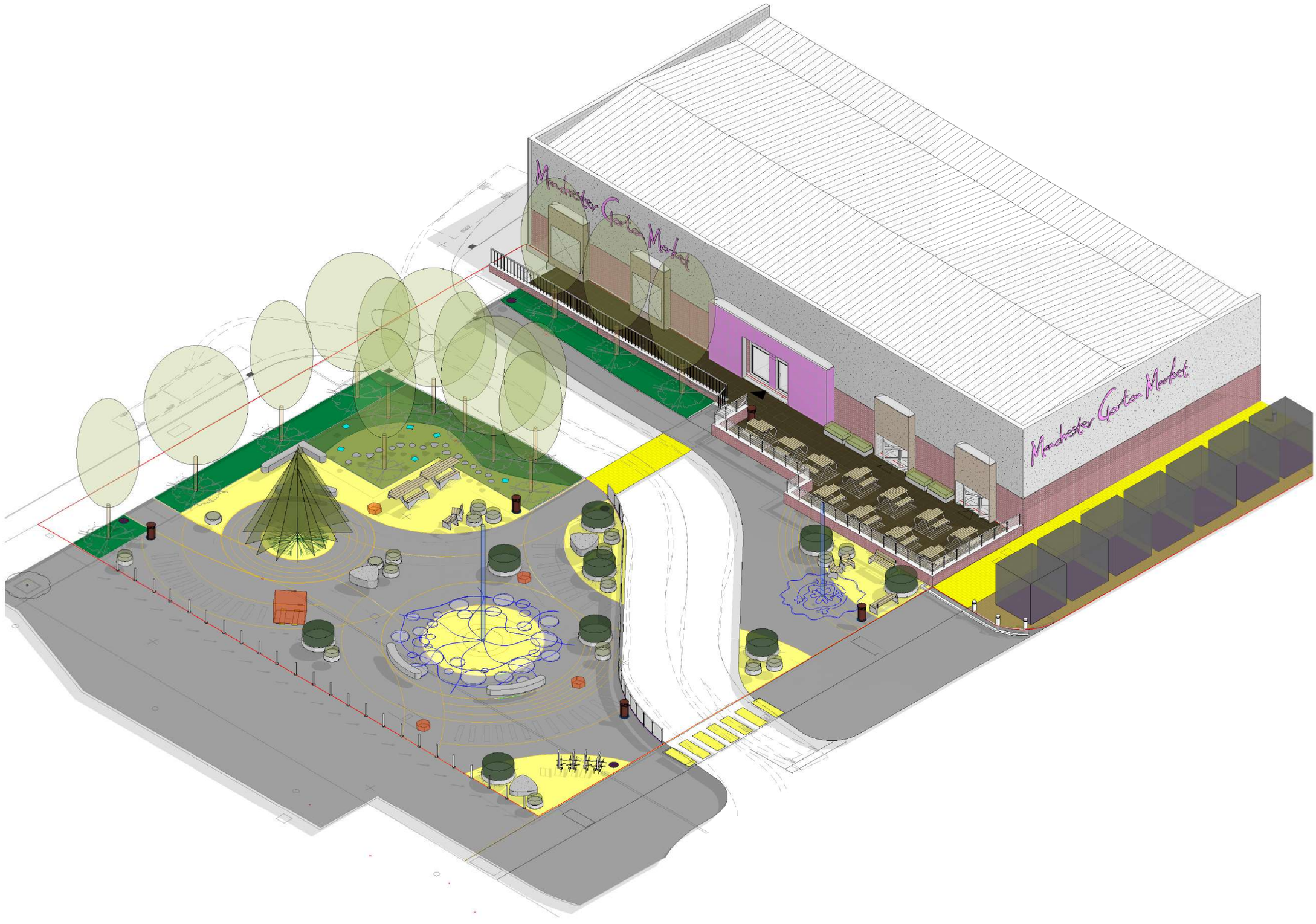


Figure 19 - 3D Conceptual View of Gorton Public Square.

5.0

5.0 ACCESS

5.1 Site Access

Access to the public square at Gorton District Centre is thoughtfully designed to ensure ease of entry for both vehicles and pedestrians. The existing entrance from Garratt Way is retained to maintain familiarity and continuity with the previous layout of the car park. However, to enhance the functionality and aesthetics of the entrance area, we have introduced a chicane within the site boundary. This feature not only slows down vehicle traffic, enhancing pedestrian safety, but also creates informal, inviting spaces outside of the main market area, providing areas for social interaction and relaxation.

Additionally, the site can be accessed from the south via Hyde Road, accommodating both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. This dual access strategy ensures a smooth flow into and out of the site, supporting the various activities and zones within the square while also connecting it seamlessly to the broader urban fabric. These access points are designed to be intuitive and efficient, promoting easy navigation for all users and integrating the square into the daily life of the community.

5.2 Market Access

In addition to the main entry points, we have introduced new access features to improve connectivity within the site. Prominently, new doors have been installed adjacent to the new café terrace, serving as a direct and convenient entryway to the market area. This strategic placement not only facilitates smooth flow between the café and the market but also enhances the synergy between these bustling zones. The doors are designed to be wide and welcoming, encouraging more foot traffic and interaction between visitors enjoying the café and those shopping in the market. This improved access point is integral to our vision of a cohesive and interactive public square, ensuring that all areas are easily reachable and connected.

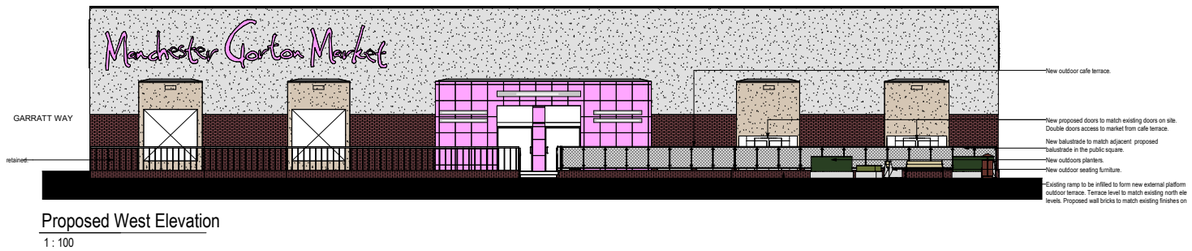


Figure 20 - Proposed Market Elevation (West)

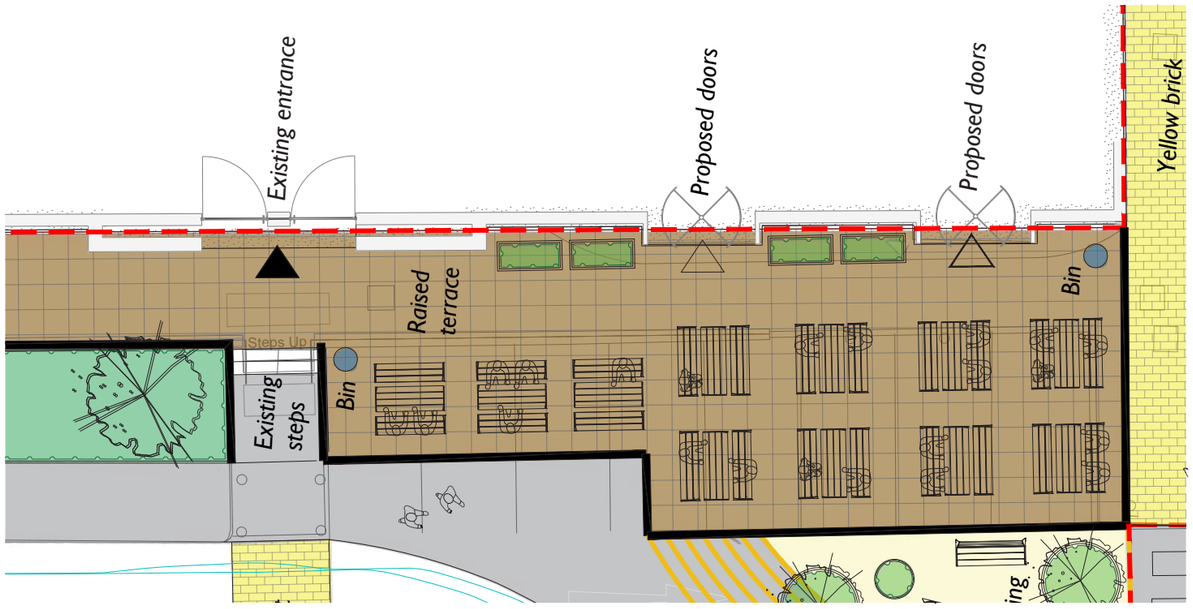


Figure 21 - Door Entrance to Market (West Elevation)

6.0

6.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultations & Feedbacks

We had the opportunity to meet up with key representatives of the Gorton community which allowed us to reflect on our proposal and inform our design with their considerations as the main consumers.
The feedback indicates strong overall support for transforming the area into a vibrant public square, affirming the project's direction. The addition of play features, seating, and colour animation is well-received. Considering the suggestions, more vibrant colour elements can be integrated into the square's design elements, such as seating, planters, and possibly the pavement to enhance visual appeal and engagement.

Use of Open Space:

There's an interest in whether the open space needs booking for activities like outdoor aerobics. It may be beneficial to design the space for both impromptu and bookable events. This flexibility will maximize the utility of the square, encouraging spontaneous community use while also supporting organized events.

Tree Sustainability:

The community is concerned about the survival of trees, especially the Christmas tree. It's crucial to select robust species suited to the local climate and urban conditions. Implementing adequate tree pits, drainage solutions, and regular maintenance schedules will help ensure their longevity and address concerns about water-logging and replacement.

Waste Management:

The issue of litter in planters indicates a need for better waste management strategies. Reviewing the placement, size, and number of bins throughout the square will be essential to maintain cleanliness and prevent misuse of planters.

Housing and Community Facilities:

Concerns about new housing developments increasing demand for community facilities should be addressed in the broader urban planning. Ensuring that the square and its facilities can accommodate this growth is key. Engaging with local housing planners may provide insights into future needs.

Food and Beverage Services:

The desire for better food offerings and concerns about the management of café and market spaces, particularly regarding table clearing, suggests a management plan for these areas is necessary. Options could include hiring staff for maintenance or creating partnerships with local businesses to manage these tasks.

Overall, the community of Gorton has expressed enthusiastic support for the redevelopment of the TESCO car park into a vibrant public square. The feedback gathered during the recent consultation reveals a palpable excitement among locals, who are eager to see the transformation and start using the new spaces. The strong backing for the square's concept and design, along with the desired enhancements such as play features, seating, and dynamic colour elements, reflects the community's anticipation and eagerness for a revitalized space that promises to bring new life and functionality to their neighbourhood.



Figure 22 - Public consultation with members of the community.



Figure 23 - Presentation deliver by HMA,MCC, Warden and DEP.



Figure 24 - Small group consultations.

7.0

7.0 SUSTAINABILITY

7.1 Material Selection

The project prioritizes the use of locally sourced, recycled, and sustainable materials to reduce environmental impact. This includes the use of reclaimed wood, recycled plastic, and local stone, which also support the local economy and reduce transportation emissions.

7.2 Green Spaces and Biodiversity

The inclusion of extensive green spaces not only enhances aesthetic value and public health but also promotes biodiversity. Native plantings are chosen to attract local wildlife, support pollinators, and require less maintenance and water.

7.3 Long-term Viability

The project is designed with flexibility in mind to ensure long-term sustainability and adaptability to future needs. This includes modular design elements that can be reconfigured as community needs change, reducing the need for new construction and further resource use.

Incorporating these sustainability principles ensures that the project not only meets current environmental standards but also contributes to a healthier, more sustainable future for the community.

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