

# Constraints + Opportunities: Junction

Good quality paving  
around the junction  
in good condition.



Planters around the  
junction are nicely  
planted and looked  
after

Electric Scooters  
are available and  
parked where they  
do not interrupt the  
pavement





# Constraints + Opportunities: Next to Church Garden



Hedges are a barrier between the street and the garden. Parking has easy access to the church

Trees and planting make this part of the street smell and feel good.



Poorly designed new building significantly detracts from the street





# Section 2

## What are the Main Goals?

In preparation for a RIBA Work Stage 2-3 design to be prepared, the HRA need to establish the basic aims and principles for the change that should be seen.

This will form the brief for the next piece of work.







#### INCREASE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Local residents should feel pride in their community and where they live. Celebrate what is great and unique in the area, celebrate the buildings, the spaces in between and the community connections. Express local identity by creating more amenities and public space on the street, including: seating, lighting, murals and signage.



#### A MEETING SPOT TO TACKLE ISOLATION

Tacking isolation in the community is essential to ensuring everyone is supported and can live long and healthy lives, and support one another to work through hardships.

In order to address this, All Saints Road can become a meeting place for locals.



#### CREATING SPACE WHICH ALLOWS YOUNG PEOPLE TO MEET

Our neighbourhood should be a welcoming place for everyone to walk, spend time and engage in community life. The proposals should encourage inclusion of young people and provide space for them.



#### PROVIDE PLACES FOR STOP, REST AND SOLITUDE

A lack of resting places can limit mobility for certain groups of people. Ensuring there are places to stop and rest benefits everyone.





#### ENCOURAGE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT, REDUCE POLLUTION AND EASY TO CROSS

Reducing the noise impacts of motor traffic directly benefits health, and encourages human interaction. Improving air quality delivers benefits for everyone and reduces unfair health inequalities. Making streets easier to cross is important to encourage more walking and to connect communities.



#### BUILD OUR CONNECTIONS TO NATURE

To address the climate emergency we need to prepare future generations with an improved connection and understanding of nature. For social interaction, improved mental health, and improved wellbeing, we should also provide more opportunities for people to do planting and growing locally.



#### A SAFE SPACE

The whole community should feel comfortable and safe on our street at all times. People should not feel worries about road danger or experience threats to their personal safety.

All Saints Road is poorly overlooked. This encourages people to linger after dark. Efforts should be made to make this space more inviting and comfortable.



#### A PLACE OF ACTIVITY

Streets are better places when they are active. People are more likely to use out streets when their journey is interesting and stimulating, with attractive views, buildings, planting and street art and where other people are using the street. They will be less dependent on cars if there are things to do locally.



How can improvements to All Saints Road make Highfield the best possible place to live?



# Section 3

## Ideas

This section summarises some of the ideas for All Saints Road, these are not resolved solutions, instead they are suggestions to spark discussion.

The Black Locust tree on All Saints Road provides shading all year round to the main public space.





# Increase biodiversity through playful bird boxes

The Black Locust Tree is the central focus of the street, however it overshadows the space underneath it. Playful additions should bring people under the tree.



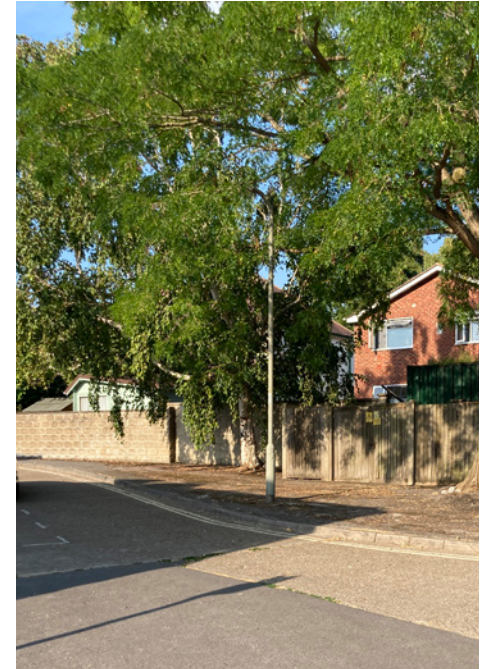
These bird boxes in Angel, London are an imaginative and fun way of making a landmark for kids and encourage biodiversity. A community party can be set up to make these bird boxes.





Expand the existing solar powered fairy lights in the trees to brighten up our winters.

Someone has installed solar powered fairy lights in this tree. They are subtle and nice. Could this we implemented elsewhere too?





# Connect people to nature with pavement planters

The pavements on All Saints Road are very wide and could easily accommodate planters.



Draw on the experiences of organisations like Incredible Edible implementing pavement growing spaces.





# Murals to build community identity and street safety

There are multiple opportunities for where to put murals that will make the street feel more loved, overlooked, and safer



Murals can include messages, artwork, or can be used to make a space feel more active and safe. Painting windows onto a blank wall can reduce crime in the adjacent spaces.



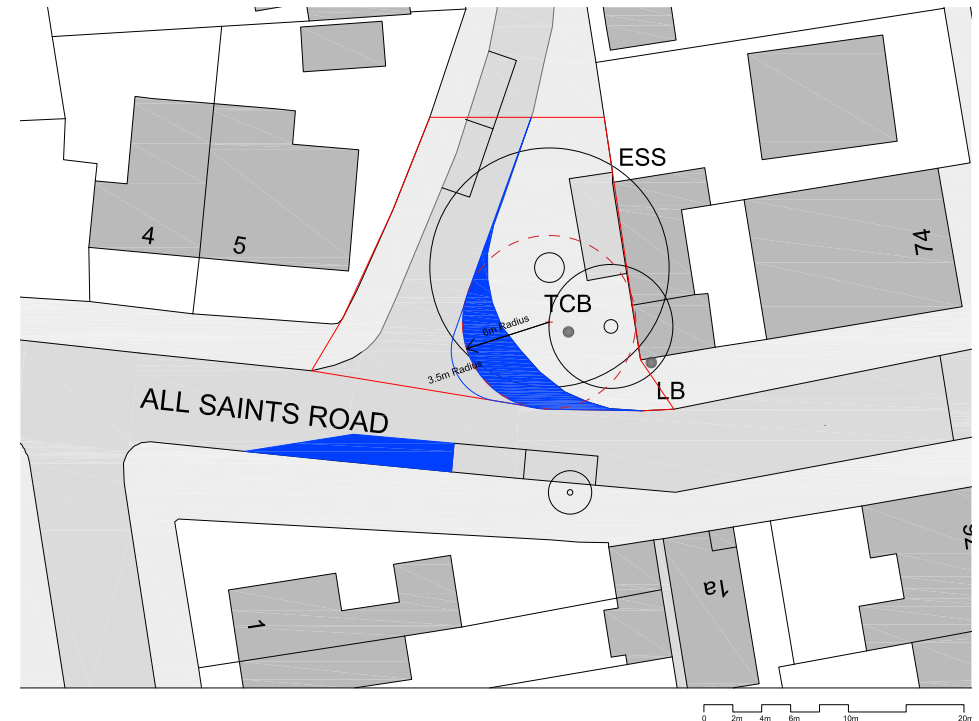


# Take More Public Space

Here are examples of how people have started to take over street space



The images below show that a considerable amount of public space can be added without changing the existing road layout or affecting the traffic.





# Extend gardening onto the street





# Create a reason to go to the square.

HRA could buy a van and sell coffees under the tree.



A community library could be placed under the tree.





# Section 4

## Benches

There is expressed need for seating underneath the trees on Barrington Junction. This has been a key driver for this work and links to many of the key motives as described above. However, this document explores options for the bench doing more than just providing a surface to sit on.





# Can the benches become more than places for sitting?

Could they become places of play too?







Could they better  
connect us with  
nature?







# Case Study: Kings Crescent Estate

Designer  
MUF Architecture / Art

Location  
Stoke Newington, London

The centrepiece of the public realm is a new playable street that runs the length of the site, named Murrain Road after the late resident who ran a local youth club. Both route and destination, the street makes a new connection to Clissold Park, and is a shared resource for residents and neighbours from the wider area – settled and incoming, young and old.

The design puts the local generation of children at its centre, both formally and through use. It challenges the perception of a street as a utilitarian space by introducing natural materials and a theatrical atmosphere. In doing so it prompts debate about the potential of our urban fabric to be adapted, and density interpreted as an intensification of use.

Murrain Road makes space for a multitude of recreation types: traditional play equipment combined with natural elements such as logs, rocks and water; props for imaginative play such as a theatre and a large table; and amenity areas for all ages such as bespoke seating that caters to the elderly as well as it does to teenagers.

It provides a space where a child can learn to ride a bike, invent new games with friends, or draw on asphalt with chalk. The street is complemented by a series of communal courtyards that make provision for community flower and vegetable growing, alongside further opportunities for play, socialising and respite from domestic life.





The street is closed to traffic in a playful way.



Rocks placed on the pedestrian street are a simple way of creating informal play and sitting opportunities. They also create boundaries to planting.



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All Saints Road



A unique concrete table placed in the street is a durable surface that becomes the central point for community action.



How can All Saints Road bring local residents together throughout the year? Not just for events, but through every day activities that support play, socialising, and gatherings?



# Next Steps

With the above in mind, here is a summary reminder of the following actions that Incremental Urbanism, could help with going forwards:

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1 - A community planning workshop - We run design workshops with resident groups to gather diverse opinions and work towards defining the important goals for a project, this process can also spark action from individuals who would otherwise feel like they cannot contribute. For this, we prepare and print large plans, and use sticky notes and thick pens to diagram needs and aspirations through a series of structured sessions.

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2 - A proposal - Depending on the brief, to develop a proposal for the street would require a survey of the street, drawing up existing plans, the design work, and proposed plans and visuals. This may also need to include a review of the physical constraints such as services, ownership, safety and accessibility. A proposal would include details on products for benches, paving, and other finishes. For this to move forward there needs to be a clear brief for what the proposal should achieve.

We recommend that these two activities are done progressively. Out of this ideas report might come some quick wins that could be implemented right away - alternatives or additions to placing a standard bench under the trees.

Alternatively a series of community workshops should be undertaken to include more voices and ownership into the project. Then from there, this can help attract more funding and support from the council to work towards the grand proposal.

The first workshop could be to come together to make bird boxes while discussing what else should happen?

