



KINGSTON-ON-SOAR VILLAGE GREEN

**IDEAS AND OPTIONS FOR
IMPROVEMENT &
CONSULTATION
SEPTEMBER 2024**



INTRODUCTION

This document has been produced to set out a process for making improvements to our village green.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

The grade II listed Pump House is in poor condition and in need of repair. This is beyond the budget of the Parish Council and we need to seek funding for it. While looking to repair the pump house it made sense to consider a plan for the Green which is generally looking unattractive as the main public space at the heart of our village

How the Green should be maintained has been to the subject of quite opposed opinions from residents. From those who would like it to be like a bowling green to those who are opposed to the regular grass cutting and would like more opportunities for bio-diversity.



THE ISSUES TO ADDRESS

- The Pump House requires repairs to the timberwork and roof tiling. The repairs to the listed structure need to be carried out to conservation standards. We would also like to reinstate the missing finial.
- The public bench needs replacing
- One of the new trees has died and needs replacing
- Maintenance - the County Council mow the grass but they do it to their timetable which doesn't take account of wet or dry periods when the grass grows at different rates. The mowings are also left behind.
- The grass verges have been damaged by cars parking on them



OUR AIMS

- To create a public space that is a warm and welcoming place to sit and enjoy our village.
- To create a better balance of planting for biodiversity
- To renovate the grade II listed Pump House
- To create a Village Green that is aesthetically improved and contributes positively to our Village
- To create better connections between our public footpaths and walking routes.

THE PROCESS

1. CONCEPT

- The vision
- Initial ideas, options and considerations
- Consultation – what do our parishioners want? What are their priorities?

2. FEASIBILITY

- Refine the plan based on consultation feedback
- Fundraising plan
- Budget estimates – delivery and ongoing maintenance
- Funding applications
- Phasing options - can we raise enough funding to do it one go or do we deliver different elements as smaller grants become available?

3. DELIVERY

- Seek quotes and appoint contractors/ suppliers
- Community involvement

WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DATE

- Repairs to the Pump House have been assessed and specified. Initial budget quote received. Further quotes required.
- An initial plan of thoughts and ideas has been drafted (overpage) to start the consultation process.

NEXT STEPS

- Consultation with residents and feedback
- Fundraising plan





Kingston on Soar - Village Connections

Public footpath link through the village used as a thread to hang small interventions on within the landscape and tie together the various anchors in communal village life.



Pump house timberwork, roof and finial repairs



The pathway to be seeded with performance spaces on the triangle green and hidden public arts.



Improved and more numerous Information boards, about the village history, community and rewilding

Use movable planters and furniture to naturally restrict car parking on the green. These plants can also be used to demarcate spaces for events and be 'used and maintained by village volunteers' to be 'farmed' for community fruit and vegetables.



Green spaces to be transformed to mown paths interspersed with wild areas for pollinators and trees.

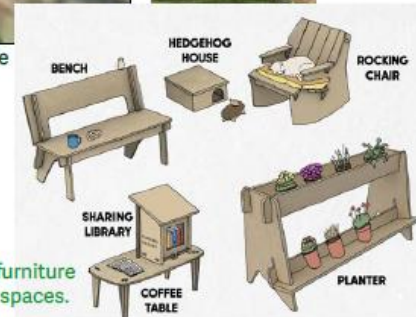


Existing tree trunk shaped into a seating spot

Tree bench included on existing trees



to Ratcliffe on Soar



Options for timber furniture dotted through the spaces.