# Alton Station Forecourt NEWSLETTE

September 2023

## DfT gives station forecourt improvements thumbs up

Hosted by South Western Railways, Alton station received a visit by officials from the Department for Transport (DfT) in June.

Officials were very impressed with the collaboration and contribution to the project by the partners, that ensured its success.

Positive feedback was given about the appearance of the station and maintaining the heritage feel whilst creating a modern public realm.

They also acknowledged the work of the Station Adopters Group in maintaining a community garden and plants around the station.



#### **STATION ROAD LANDOWNERS GET TOGETHER TO LOOK AT DESIGN OPTIONS**

A meeting of landowners was held in July 2023 to look into various proposals for Station Road and how to move it forward.

Landowners have gone away to discuss the best and safest options for improving pedestrian access.

Watch our short video about Alton Station project



South Western 🛪 Railway









## **NEXT** STEPS

- Design options for Station Road agreed by stakeholders
- Planters and bollards installation to stop vehicles blocking the pavement
- Contractors returning in Autumn to remedy defects



#### **Contractors return for remedial work in Autumn**

Primary contractors, Walker Construction have returned to undertake defects rectification including work to the drop-off bay hatched area, and to repair a collapsed foul drainage pipe and manhole at the station café. Remedial work will take three weeks to complete.

The café drainage pipe and manhole repairs involve excavation and as such a road closure is required to undertake the works.

The project manager and contractor will provide information and give plenty of notice of any road diversions.

### **Promoting** active travel

Hampshire County Council led a successful bid and secured Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding for Alton Railway Station Active Travel Mobility Hub. This will further enhance the station by encouraging active travel within Alton.

CIL funding, along with additional funds from HCC will go towards active travel proposals including real time bus information, cycle facilities and Station Road pedestrian access improvements.

## Planters for a softer feel

Discussions around the installation of planters are ongoing, with project partners exploring options for integration of planters into the scheme. If agreed, there will be opportunities for local groups and businesses to adopt and look after planters once they are in place.

Project partners have worked very closely with Alton Station Adopters Group and listened to feedback regarding softening the scheme through additional landscaping and are continuing to establish how best to act on the feedback for the new planters and plants. We would be keen to hear from any groups or businesses who are interested in taking on a planter at the station forecourt.

### Find out more about the project at <u>www.easthants.gov.uk/alton-place-making</u>

### CLLR'S VIEW

Cllr Rob Mocatta, EHDC's portfolio holder for Regeneration & Prosperity, said:

"The improvements to Alton station has created a welcoming gateway to the town.

Making it safer and easier for people to get to and from the station.

It will encourage walking and cycling, improve connectivity between communities, and make the area more attractive to businesses and visitors."