

Chard Town Centre Public Realm Improvements Newsletter (August 2021)

GRIFFITHS
civil engineering and construction

Introduction

Griffiths has been appointed Principal Contractor by South Somerset District Council to construct public realm improvements in Chard town centre as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone and Chard Regeneration scheme. Once complete, this will make the high street a more attractive, engaging and vibrant place for people to live, work and spend time.

Griffiths is a leading regional Civil Engineering Contractor with a track record stretching back almost fifty years. We construct new roads, bridges and railways as well as maintaining existing assets. We are not new to working in the area. Currently we are working in Taunton on improvements to the Toneway Creech Castle junction and have recently completed the improvement scheme around Junction 25 of the M5, the Western Corridor Improvements in Yeovil and Frome Town Centre.

Want to get in touch?

Our Public Liaison Officer for the Chard Public Realm Improvement Scheme can be contacted by

T: 0330 041 2184*

E: chard@alungriffiths.co.uk

* Calls to this number are charged at national call rates and included in inclusive minute plans from landlines and mobile

Project Details



Our scope of works is:

- Improve the setting of the Guildhall, moving the bus stop slightly west to provide enhanced views of this significant building
- Widen sections of pavement on Fore Street and Holyrood Street to provide easier movement of pedestrians, improved accessibility, safer crossing points and potential for markets, café seating or other events, as well as reducing the dominance of traffic
- Replace tired concrete, brick, and tarmac paving with high quality natural stone in Holyrood Street, near the Guildhall on Fore Street and at the 'Eastern Gateway' (junction of Fore Street and Silver Street)
- Enhance the setting of the unique water rills which run through the town
- Construct a new footway along Boden Street between Costa Coffee and the Boden Street car park, creating a safe pedestrian route to and from the town centre and connecting to the leisure centre. The road will be narrower to allow for this and will therefore become one-way northbound between Commercial Row and Fore Street.
- Plant new trees and beds to add more greenery to the urban setting
- Make safety improvements to the junctions of Marketfield and Boden Street car parks, to increase visibility for drivers pulling out
- Declutter street furniture and create new cycle parking and seating areas.

**REVITALISING
THE Hi!STREET**

Programme of work and hours

Works will commence in September 2021 and are scheduled to last up to 28 weeks.

Our general working hours will be 07.30hrs to 17.00hrs Monday to Friday. However, we may need to work later hours during some evenings to undertake work to accesses to shops. We do this when the business is closed to reduce disruption. **Access to premises will be maintained at all times.**

All work will involve kerbing, paving, drainage, surfacing and finally landscaping, adding street furniture and signage. Some Traffic Management will be required at times with Temporary Traffic Lights but there are no road closures planned.

Our programme of work will be in two sections:

Section 1 – Will begin around the **Marketfield Car Park entrance in September**, moving then to the **Boden Street Car Park entrance, which will take us up to the end of October.**

Section 2- Will see two gangs operating concurrently from the **start of October to Christmas on Fore Street and Holyrood Street between October and the end of January.**

January and February will see work completed in the Eastern Gateway, Howards Row and Boden Street.

The plan on page 3 shows the areas of work.

All timings are subject to unforeseen circumstances.

Artists' impressions and visualisations can be found on the South Somerset District Council [Chard Regeneration website](https://www.chardregeneration.co.uk/town-centre-regeneration) at www.chardregeneration.co.uk/town-centre-regeneration. You can also find out more about the Chard Regeneration Programme and the High Street Heritage Action Zone, and download the **Chard Town Centre Public Realm Strategy** which informed the work.

Stay in Touch

Going forward we shall provide weekly plans looking ahead to where we are working in the following week.

To ensure you receive updates please subscribe to our Mailchimp page and an email will be sent to your computer or smart device. We shall also post updates on our portable noticeboard that will be attached to our fencing as we progress around the various construction stages.

To subscribe go to our landing page online:

<https://mailchi.mp/alungriffiths/chard-town-centre-public-realm-improvements> **OR use this QR code to take you there**



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 South Somerset
District Council



Historic England



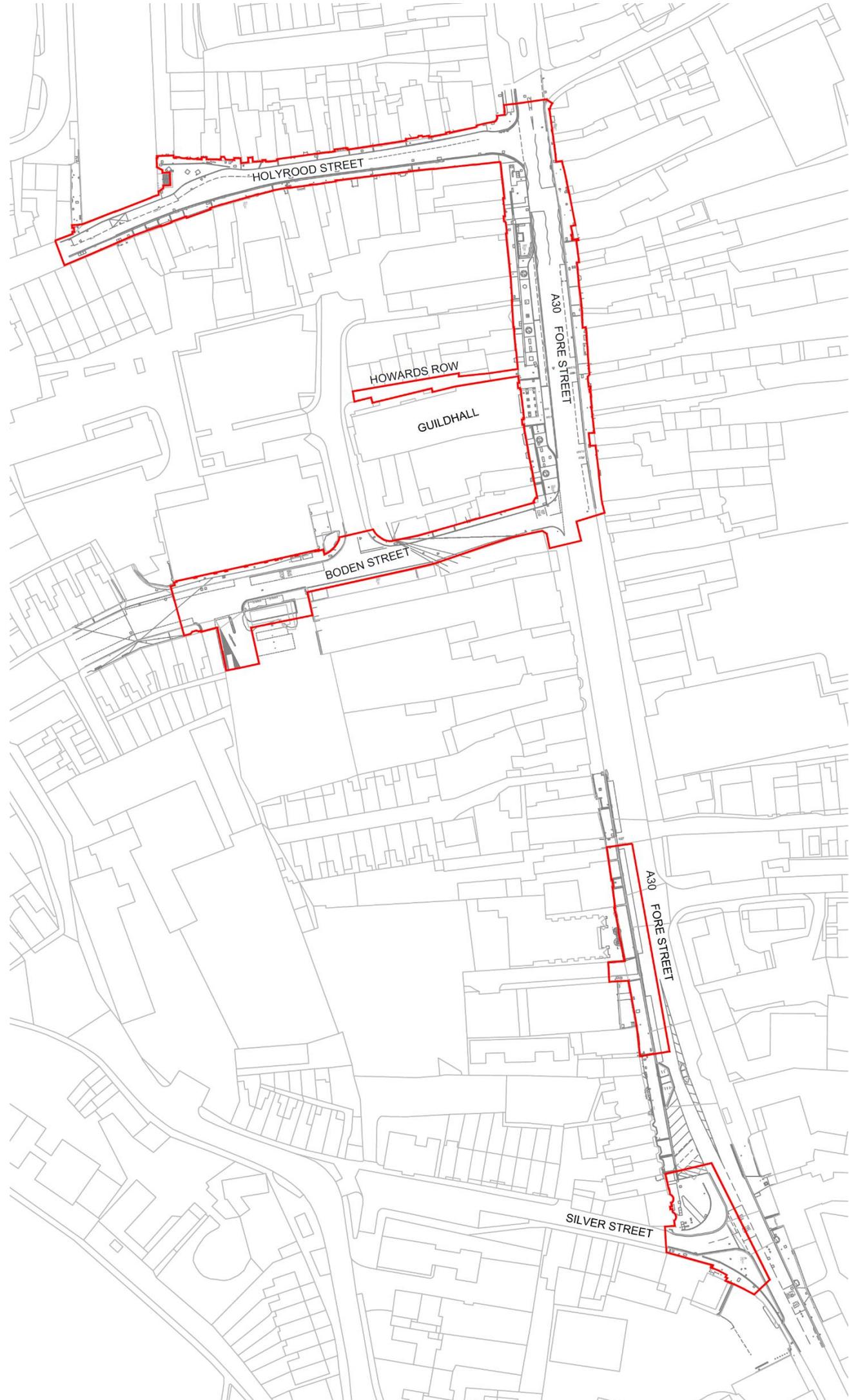
HM Government



Chard
Town Council

You can get in touch by contacting your Public Liaison Officer on 0330 041 2184* or chard@alungriffiths.co.uk

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HOLYROOD STREET

HOWARDS ROW

GUILDHALL

BODEN STREET

A30 FORE STREET

A30 FORE STREET

SILVER STREET