

Current Situation







- The Town Hall is an attractive landmark building built in Victorian gothic style.
- The Market Place provides a flexible space for informal seating, events, larger markets and outdoor cafes, however its full potential is constrained by limited space and a disjointed layout.
- The existing carriageways have significant impact on pedestrian quality of space in terms of noise air pollution and traffic movement.
- Regulatory road signs and street clutter proliferate the area and detract from the distinctive architecture of the Town Hall and the built environment.
- The paving materials comprise red and blue clay brick pavers. The quality of paving is poor, they are slippy when wet and the red colour clashes with the adjacent buildings.
- A chamfered upstand kerb delineating an access road in the space has been cited as a trip hazard and is no longer required.

- Large trees are located in the Market Place. They provide greenery to counter the busy road but root growth has resulted in significant pavement heave and causes a considerable trip hazard.
- The street furniture is uncoordinated in appearance and is located in a haphazard cluttered arrangement.
- In general the combination of poor quality paving, street furniture and traffic dominance do not provide a high quality setting for the town hall or reflect the importance of this central town space.
- Existing layout hinders market operation and community events
- Existing configuration causes difficulties for people with disabilities





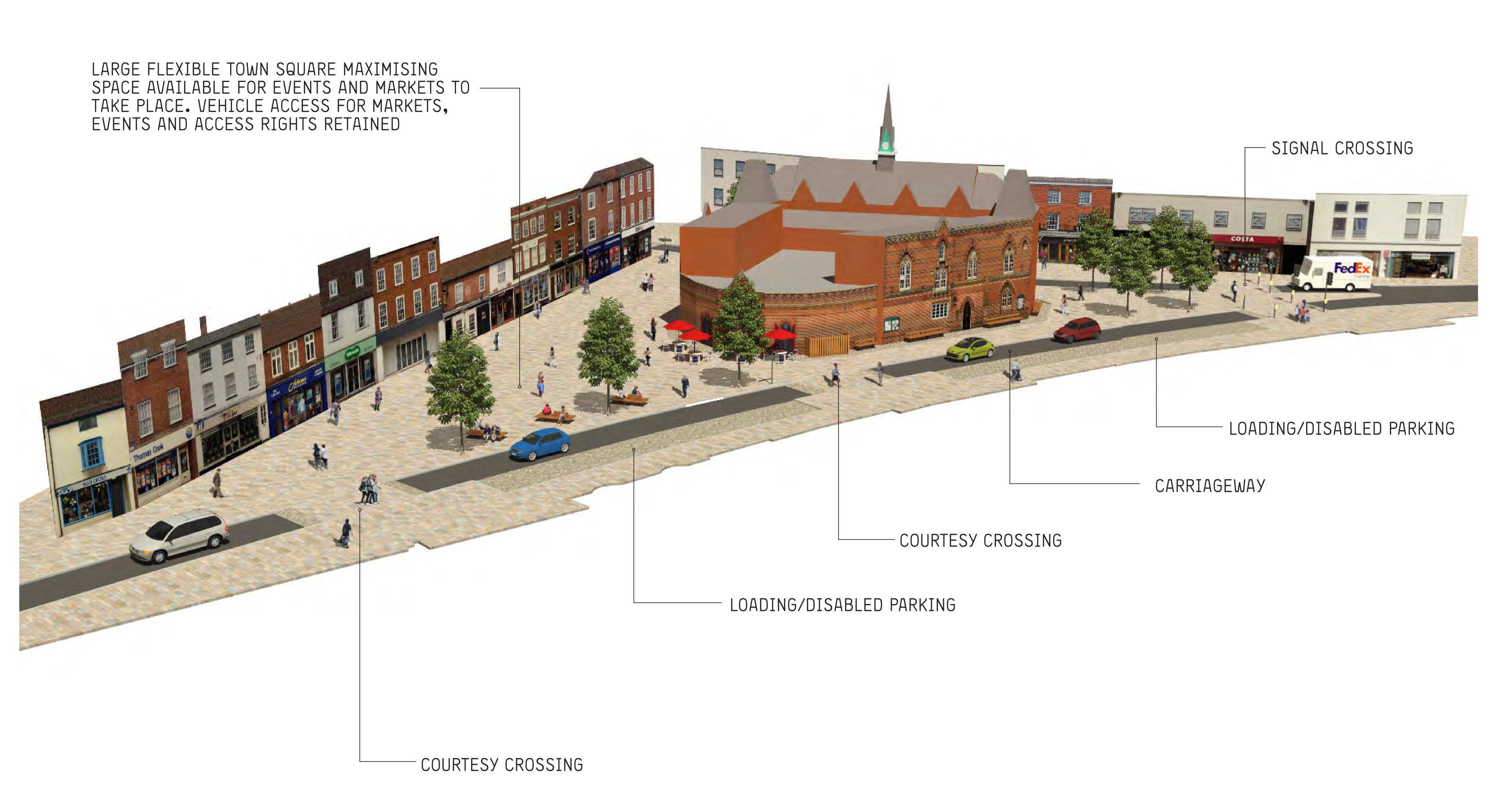




The Proposal

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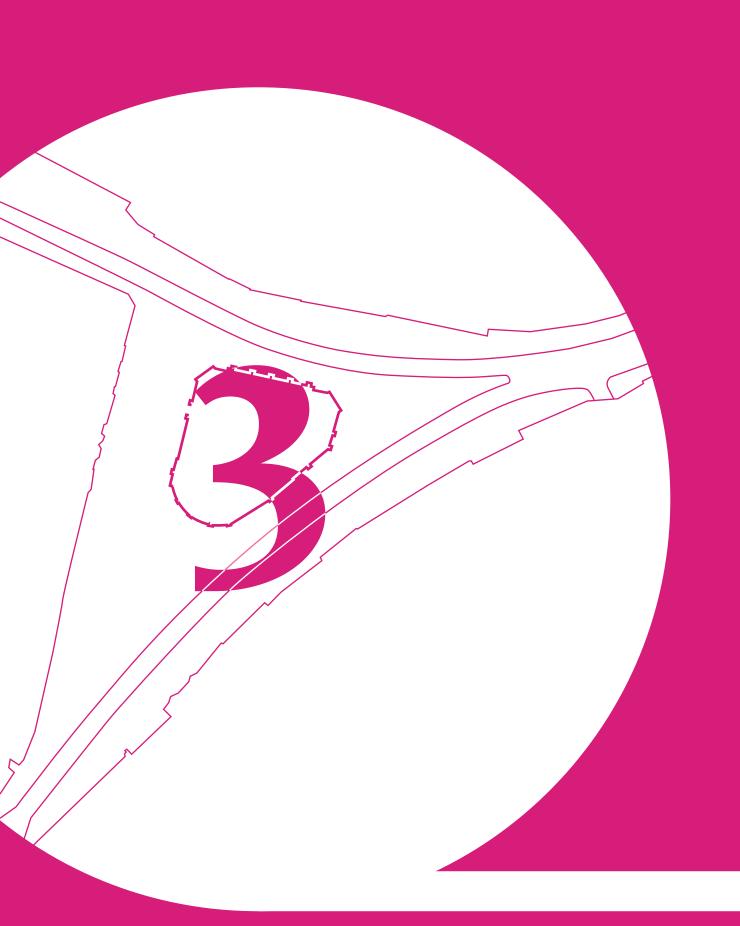
- Market Place to continue hosting markets and important civic events
- Maximise quality and flexibility of the space
- Carriageway potentially re-configured to maximise pavement space, while keeping capacity for vehicles
- Consistent paving material used so Market Place appears as a unified space
- Dedicated loading/disabled parking bays provided
- Signalised crossing be retained and additional 'courtesy crossings' introduced.
- To provide more flexible space for the operation of markets and events.
- Improvements to power supply provided to benefit market operation and community events.
- Ensure inclusive access for all users











Market Day



- Market Stalls to have positive relationship with existing space.
- To provide movement space between market stalls and shop frontages and between stalls and town hall.
- Linear arrangement to rationalise electricity connections and improve health and safety for market operations



- New arrangement maximises available space and creates organised layout benefitting shoppers and vendors
- Flexible space allows for growth of the market.
- Improved space offers performance area for entertainment and community events.

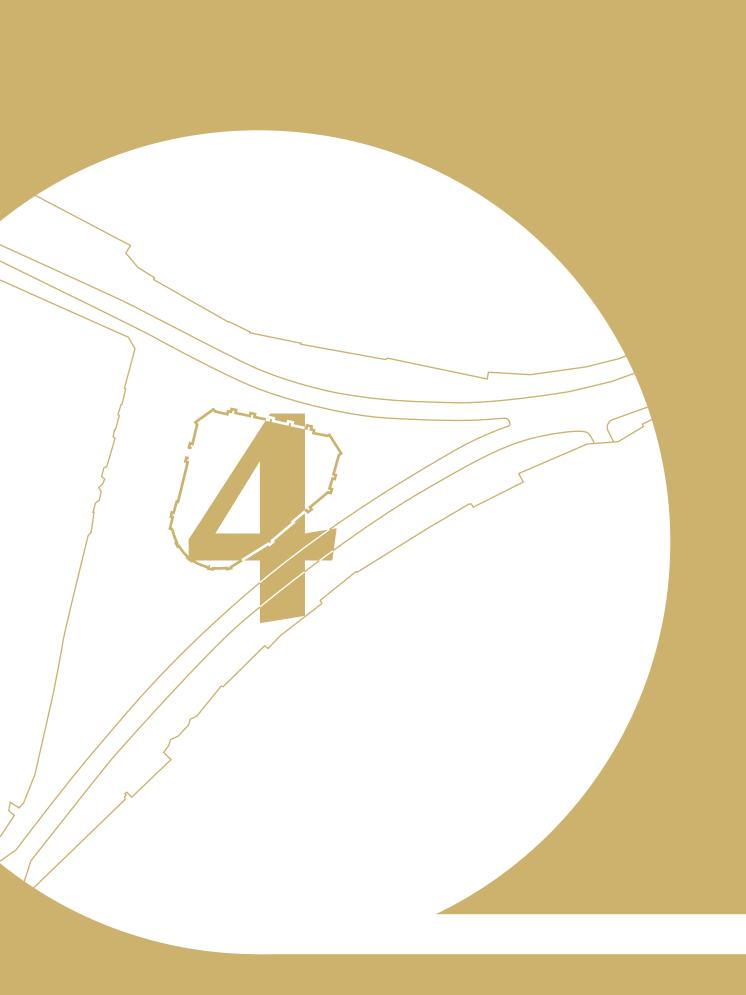






COURTESY CROSSING





Flexibility

