

Twickenham Rediscovered Connectivity and Use of the River Workshop Feedback

Wednesday 14th September 2016

Table 1 Feedback

Table 1: What does Connectivity mean to you?

Definition: 'A magnet' / 'a reason to go' / 'a transition'

Discussion points:

- More reason to go to the River / activities – but for everyone, not just those who are members of clubs
- Buildings that look like they belong (to a riverside) these could be as far up as King Street to draw you down
- Seeing the river from King Street – there was discussion as to whether this was geographically possible
- Just open space down to the River was mentioned
- Square connecting King Street to the River, but the square to be down by the River
- Mixed opinions on shops leading people down to the River
- Bridge to Ham (over Eel Pie)
- General discussion that Water Lane needs to connect King Street to the River, drawing people down

Table 1: Considering the definition, what actions / feature should be considered as part of the scheme to deliver your definition on the site?

- Trees leading down Water Lane
- Diamond Jubilee Gardens theme through the development
- Shops, cafes, riverside restaurant
- Water feature to draw you on to Water Lane
- Coloured line in road / designs on the road to encourage people on to Water Lane
- Artwork on Water Lane to catch the eye
- Water Lane needs to be porous – allowing people to flow down it
- Town square next to the River
- Need walkways through the new development to allow people to move easily through it
- Open up Diamond Jubilee Gardens – allow access from the new site
- Discussion of the transition from King Street, to a square, to the River
- Development needs to have a mix of uses
- Put up signage directing people to the River
- Cobble Water Lane (like Church Lane) – make it look an attractive / interesting lane to walk down
- Bring the village of Twickenham through to Diamond Jubilee Gardens
- Museum

Table 1: What river-related uses are currently available in the area and how this could this site enhance that use further?

- Keep the River as it is
- It's a safe stretch of water for children
- It was mentioned that it is a busy piece of water and you probably wouldn't want to increase traffic
- Mixed opinion on the hire of rowing boats from Twickenham riverside
- Something needed at the bottom of Wharf Lane – café / van café
- It was discussed how the stretch of water is quite shallow and could not accommodate large boats
- It was also mentioned how the River is narrow so building out would be impossible and having a boat bar / café / etc. would be problematic
- Boat themed shop
- Pump out
- Cycle hire

Table 2 Feedback

Table 2: What does Connectivity mean to you?

- Community
- Improve pavement
- Slow traffic
- Problem of cyclists going over to Eel Pie – there is a sign saying they shouldn't
- Including pedestrians in ideas of 'connectivity'
- The physical desirability between two places
- Visual
 - No sight lines of River
 - An advert for the River inviting you down – link to retail / commercial
 - Widen Water Lane – create vista
- Continuity of use
 - Access along the River – dead end Wharf Lane
 - Access to Radnor Gardens
 - More paving
 - 30m open, 10m for shops
- Innovation
 - E.g. paddle boarding
- Compatibility
- Floating walkways

Table 2: Considering the definition, what actions / feature should be considered as part of the scheme to deliver your definition on the site?

- Openness – public open space, markets (e.g. Open Temple Bar behind St Paul's)
- Mixed opinion on parking as a feature on riverside
 - Some felt it is important
 - Others felt it should be reduced
 - Underground option
 - Service access
- Boathouses on the river at the front of the proposed site – also sports clubs
- Eel Pie Island museum
- Floating walkway, bridge or ferries to Radnor Gardens or commuter ferry (from the end of Wharf Lane)
- Mixed opinion on widening Water Lane
 - Visibility would be increased if widened
- Visual enhancement – vista
- Cafés and restaurants on the front
 - SE Corner
 - Noise?
 - Connect to the open space of the Diamond Jubilee Gardens
 - Has to be compatible with boathouses
- Bridge from other side of Eel Pie Island to Ham

Table 2: What river-related uses are currently available in the area and how this could this site enhance that use further?

- Renovation of slipway at the end of Water Lane – recreational use
 - Could be a launch for new boat houses / boat hire
 - Steps are dangerous
- Encourage use of former dock next to Eel Pie bridge for recreational use
- Having a jetty was discussed with the issues of water depth and dredging mentioned, also how it might affect rowers
- More boathouses
- ‘River centre’
 - Floating attraction on the river
 - Link with Diamond Jubilee Gardens
 - Children / schools – educational
 - Tourist attraction
 - Historical
 - Submarine bar
- Boathouse storage – in dead end by Wharf Lane
- It is important to keep the commercial boating that is already there
- Norfolk barges / narrow boats
- Coffee shop on the River

Table 3 Feedback

Table 3: What does Connectivity mean to you?

- Visual – see river and people using it
- Working riverside at the moment – Water Lane view point and more leisure activities and people doing things
- Discussion of Champions Wharf – landscaped and people use viewing point
- Wharf Lane – dead corner / not interesting
- Connecting King Street to the River vs. refuge from busy King Street
- Physical Connectivity
 - The two points – Water and Wharf Lane
 - Improve physical while enhancing other types of connection
 - Concern that some people in Twickenham don't know about the River
- Emotional connectivity
 - Makes people feel good
 - Wellbeing
 - Connection with activities
 - Diverse array of experiences
 - Don't want the emotional connectivity destroyed, distracted or disturbed
- Accessibility
- Safe place for parents and children
- Twickenham needs to play to its strengths – which is the River
- Slipway

Table 3: Considering the definition, what actions / feature should be considered as part of the scheme to deliver your definition on the site?

- Wharf Lane – Dead Corner
 - Small boat house
 - Children’s activities
 - Restaurant – upper level
 - Need to consider scale
- Water Lane – key site
 - Raised bit
 - Keep open / keep character / keep views
 - Café
 - Development needs to be subtle – don’t want big building
 - Transition
 - Jubilee Garden / Town square
- Retain work done to paving on Riverside / Embankment

Table 3: Continued...

- Low scale development – don't drown out riverside
- Uses
 - Enhance existing uses
 - Learning to use the Riverside
 - Small craft
 - Consider young people
- Riverside park replacing car parking so it gets the view
- Put parking underground – concern about costs of doing this
- Improving loading
- Concern about widening Water Lane
 - Take character away
 - People live there
 - It is well used
- Need to draw people down
- Walkway to Radnor gardens – keep it pedestrian
- Service road needed – particularly when it floods

Table 3: What river-related uses are currently available in the area and how this could this site enhance that use further?

- Working River – have a few working boat yards
 - 5 piles needed
- Need to accept a certain amount of car use – parking provision on the riverside
- Wharf Lane
 - Development / activity / café / boat house
- Open space / parks
 - Some like the enclosed aspect
 - Jubilee Gardens – how open?
- Issue with rough sleepers
- More user friendly
 - Children – smaller part of the River – need to encourage them to use the River
 - Activities
 - Activities for older children
- Boat arches
 - Used to have by Water Lane – restore
 - Boat storage
 - Restaurant
- Series of wide steps opposite Water Lane

Table 4 Feedback

Table 4: What does Connectivity mean to you?

Definition: 'Accessible' / 'Reason to go – range of activities / views' / 'Protection and conservation'

Discussion points:

- Accessibility
- A destination / attraction – a reason to go to the River
- Drawing people to the River from King Street – but protecting views
 - Perhaps a viewing platform is the draw?
- Various routes through the development
- Activities that draw people down
- Water uses
- Protection and conservation
- Pastimes – past and present (celebrating the areas unique heritage)

Table 4: Considering the definition, what actions / feature should be considered as part of the scheme to deliver your definition on the site?

- A jetty / ferry / boat trips
- Widening the pavement down Water Lane
- Water feature – flowing down Water Lane
- Boathouses in front of Diamond Jubilee Garden / the development site (providing storage for paddle board / rowing clubs)
- Guildhall to draw people down
- Viewing platform – e.g. café / restaurant / terrace
- Access routes to the River and Diamond Jubilee Gardens
- Passive surveillance, community policing (provided by residential development)
- Event Space
- 5 piles – to enable the working riverside to thrive

Table 4: What river-related uses are currently available in the area and how this could this site enhance that use further?

- Boathouses
 - Storage space
 - Paddle boards
 - Rowing club
- Jetty
- Enjoyment of the river and viewing
 - Camera obscura / viewing tower?
- Better signage and promotion
- Recreational rowing boat hire (in conjunction with existing provider)
- Cycle hire
- 5 piles – to enable the working riverside to thrive