

Portaferry Public Realm Scheme

Project Start Date: October 2023
Project Completion Date: Summer 2024
Project Value: £2M

Edition no: 14: 16/08/24

Welcome to the fourteenth newsletter for the Portaferry Public Realm Scheme. Newsletters will be issued monthly as works progress to keep residents and businesses updated on progress and future work schedules. You can register to receive these newsletters by emailing 'SUBSCRIBE' to portaferrypublicrealm@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk. Alternatively, printed newsletters will be delivered to Exploris, Portaferry Library and Portaferry Post Office and can be picked up from there by anyone interested in the scheme who does not have access to email.



Some of the new street furniture has been installed at the back of Market House

For further information visit: ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/portaferrypublicrealm
email: portaferrypr@northstone-ni.com or telephone: 07385 029 472
24 Hour Contact No: 028 9039 4419

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CURRENT PLANNED WORKS

Works are continuing well around the scheme and the cobbled entrance to the Eurospar is now complete. The temporary surfacing, that was laid to facilitate the Gala, is now being excavated and these areas will soon be paved.

Northstone Ltd are continuing with the paving works within the Square and it is coming together well. Works have now commenced from the Rock bakery and heading towards the Post Office.

Granite kerbs removed from the Square previously have been reconditioned and reused on Meetinghouse Street. These granite kerbs are aesthetically pleasing and look well matched to the new kerbing and paving at the junction with High Street.

The majority of the new street lighting columns have been installed and progress is being made with the fitting of the new heads and wall brackets to the new locations in the coming days. Due to sequencing and legislative requirements, Northstone Ltd are only able to remove the old columns and heads once the new lighting is up and running which will hopefully be completed in the next few weeks.



Cobbles being laid outside the Rock Bakery building

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The new heritage style bus shelter installed in Market Square

Schedule of Works

Some changes have been made to the work plan and dates so please see revised work plan phases below. These changes are following consultation with DfI, and work is now to be carried out to the footpath outside the Credit Union to improve pedestrian accessibility.

Phase 1 – Trial holes and Ferry Street **Oct 2023-Dec 2023**

Phase 2 – Castle Street **Nov 2023 – Feb 2024**

Phase 3 – Market Square and Junctions of Ferry St/The Strand & Castle St/The Strand **Jan 2024 – Aug 2024**

Phase 4 – Meetinghouse Street **July 2024 - Aug 2024**

Phase 5 – Credit Union footpath and scheme conclusion **Sept 2024**

Keep an eye on the future newsletters and the website, www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/portaferrypublicrealm for regular updates on the planned works.

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Scheme works

Widening of footpaths / Better pedestrian connectivity / Improved street lighting / Resurfacing footpaths with sustainable materials / The incorporation of street furniture / Planting / Re-designing the car park within Market Square to create a usable civic space

Scope of scheme

Market Square / Castle Street / Ferry Street / High Street / Meeting House Street.

The Scheme Contractor, Northstone Ltd, will liaise with all of the residents and businesses within the scope of the scheme to try and reduce disruption during the period of works. Those traders and residents directly affected will be contacted by the contractor prior to works commencing.

Contractor Contact Details

Northstone's Public Liaison Officer will be contactable on **07385029472** for any day-to-day queries about the works or particular requirements for access.

For out of hours contact, there is a 24hr contractor's contact number for Northstone:
02890394419

Alternatively, there is a dedicated contractor's email address portaferrypr@northstone-ni.com where Northstone will endeavour to answer any queries or address any issues.



This project will greatly improve the village of Portaferry, enhancing the pavements and Market Square which will have long term benefits for residents and businesses. While we will endeavour to cause as little disruption as possible during our works, short delays and minor inconvenience are unavoidable and we would like to thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation throughout our works.

The scheme is funded under the Covid Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme (SSRP) with a contribution from Ards and North Down Borough Council. The SSRP is a collaborative approach, with contributions from the Department for Communities, Department for Infrastructure, and Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

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