

Good morning,

Having read the notice on the wire fencing underneath the sails, I am writing with my comments.

As a resident and business owner directly opposite this area, I was a little disappointed to not be given any notification of the proposed plans.

The notice says that there will be three phases, but there is no timeline for this. Is there a timeline?

Phase one suggests that three of the four trees will be taken down and replaced with pear trees. I assume this is because of the issue with the paving slabs moving. I am against moving the trees as they are the only trees in this area, and I wonder when they were planted if they were only given a certain "shelf-life"? My other concern is that they will be taken down and then it will be a while before they are replaced, leaving the area very stark and devoid of plant life. (I do seem to remember something about East Suffolk council and Climate Emergency? I wonder how this fits in with that?) Would it not be possible to leave the trees and build up the area around to incorporate the elevation of the roots and introduce some more planting?

With regard to the area that is currently underneath the sails, I'm sure many people have many ideas. Although it would be a lovely idea to make this a seating area, I am not in agreement with this idea. I don't know the answer to this, but I wonder how well used the seating area opposite the Town Hall is used and by whom. When we first arrived, the area under the sails was often used as a place to sit and drink, by a variety of people. There were also clearly drug deals by young people on bicycles there too. Thanks to the support of Mike Soanes and the police, I am happy to say that this is now a rare occurrence. I feel by introducing seating, this will encourage the street drinkers back in.

From both a resident and business point of view, I feel that this area could be used as additional parking. Again, thanks to Mike and the traffic enforcement officers, customers to the businesses on the High Street are now able to make good use of the one-hour free parking. In the evenings there is an increased need for parking spaces due to the variety of local restaurants. As a result, there are often cars parked on the pavement around the sails and by the public toilet which indicates a demand for extra parking. Also, if as proposed, there will be less "parking" in the triangle area, there will need to be a greater need for parking for those businesses around the triangle. I think that it should remain free for a limited time; one or two hours.

So, to summarise; I am against the trees being taken down, I don't think seating is a good plan and I think increased parking spaces should be considered.

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Further to my recent FB comments re; development of Triangle market.

The area is like an amphitheatre what about putting a suitably designed (heritage) stage against the south facing wall so that bands/events can play outside. Perhaps ask The Triangle Pub to organise some bands (mutual support)

If you want people to enjoy or 'experience' the area, install more seating! Not everybody can stand for long periods.

What about reinstating the old Devereux's advertising on the end wall

(I can help with lay out, artwork and fonts if needed, free of charge) see attached image of original. or alternatively, get someone to paint a mural on it. Have a competition in the local paper for ideas/artists to supply artwork or paintings or commission heritage based murals.

Move some of the town centre events up to the area to make better use of it.

Thats what its for!

Thats all I can think of off the top of me head at the moment. If I think of anything else I'll be in touch.

