

Introduction

This exhibition displays a set of proposed *Regeneration Principles* for Radstock town centre. You are invited to comment on these, details and on how you can do this are given at the end of the display.

So, what are the *Regeneration Principles* and what is their purpose?

Well, first they are not a substitute for action. What they do is set out some principles for action that describe in very broad terms the sort of town centre we aim to achieve. Individual improvements and developments will continue in the future. It is important that when taken together these individual actions add up to create an attractive and successful town centre. The intention therefore is that these *Regeneration Principles*, together with Planning and other policies, will help guide future improvement and development in the town centre.

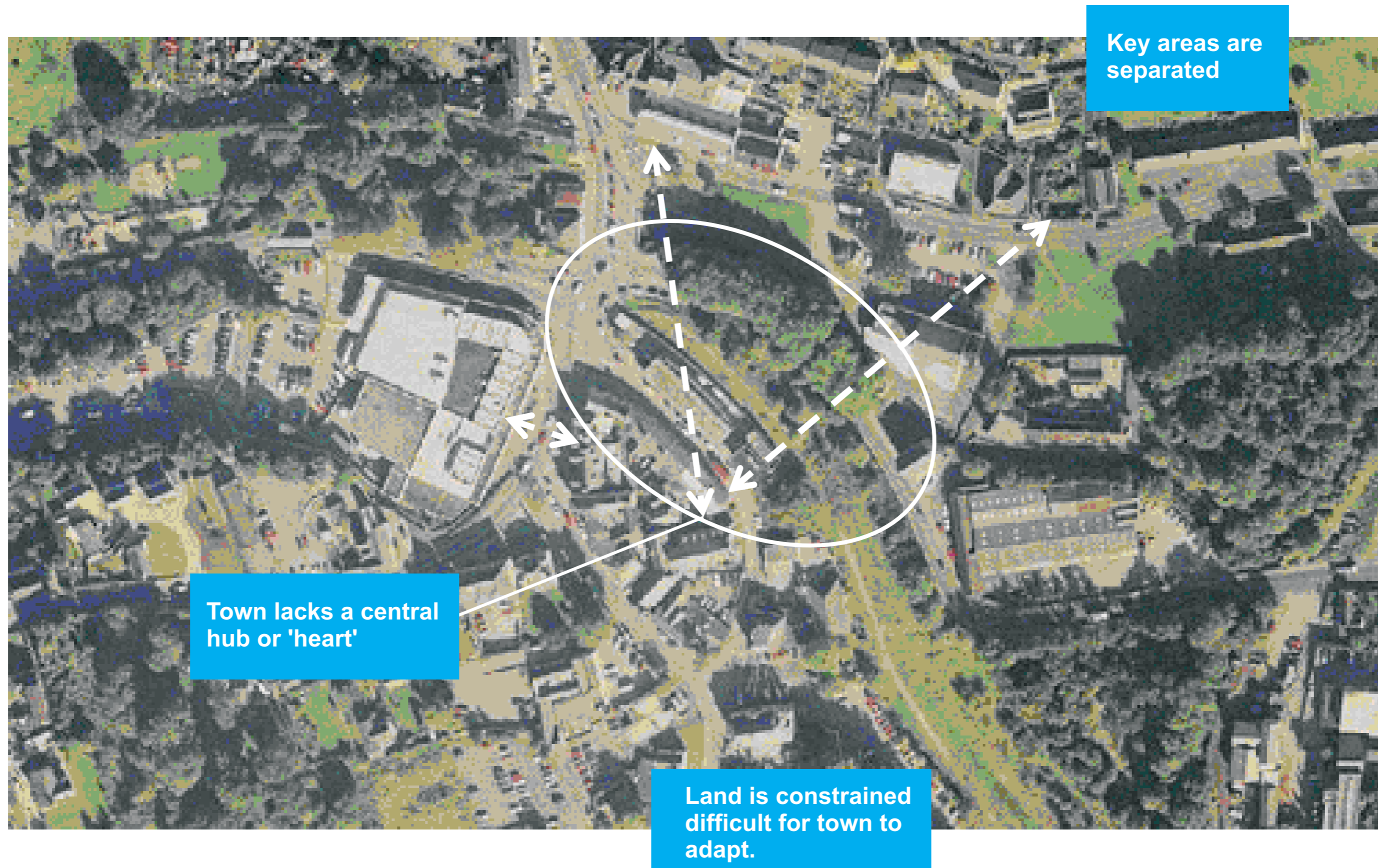
Over recent years there has been a lot of regeneration work and consultation. This has led to investment and improvements in Radstock town centre, examples of which are featured in this display.



The *Regeneration Principles* draw together the threads of recent work. At this stage these principles cannot have the status of formal planning policy. However, they are intended to help in producing proposals for physical improvement and development of the town and could be taken into account when considering planning proposals. They could also help in developing planning policy in the future.

Have your say...

The Regeneration Principles



Form

Form refers to the physical shape and layout of the centre of Radstock. Successful towns usually have a clear centre and a pattern of buildings and spaces that is well connected and enables the town to adapt and change. This principle aims to aid Radstock town centre in developing a stronger heart and responding successfully to change:

- 1. To establish a physical structure that enables development of a coherent and connected centre that can respond and adapt to change over time.***

Function

Function refers to the role of the town centre in serving Radstock and the wider area. All towns develop for a purpose and Radstock developed around its rail and coal industries. The town's function has since evolved and this principle aims to focus on the town centre's role in the 21st century:

- 2. Creation of a modern market town that remains distinctive, provides a focal point for the community and civic life, accommodates a mix of enterprise and compatible uses, and maximises visitor potential founded on its heritage and location.***

Economy, Uses and Activities

This refers to the life of the town centre and what makes it distinctive and sustainable. This principle supports making the most of this potential to revitalise the town centre and contribute to the local economy:

- 3. Development of economic activity and uses around arts based enterprise, small environmentally friendly businesses, a stop off and base for visitors, retail and other services serving the local population***

Have your say...

Living

Radstock is an area of pit-head settlement, so the housing is concentrated on the surrounding hillsides and there is little town centre living. This principle promotes more central living in the town, strengthening community feeling and enabling people to live close to services and facilities:

4. Increase town centre living to enable people to live close to shops, services and transport whilst adding to the vitality of the centre.



Example of housing from elsewhere

Community and Services

Radstock has a strong tradition of community activity, education and self help. Recent developments such as the new school provide first class facilities. However, scope remains for improving facilities and access to them:

5. Develop the town as a community and local service hub with excellent, flexible and accessible facilities.



New St Nicholas School, Radstock

Connection and Public Realm

This refers to the towns' streets and public spaces. Once a rail town, Radstock is now a through-town dominated by traffic. Pedestrian and cycle movement is severed and curtailed and while the centre is an important hub for buses, interchange facilities are poor. The new Memorial Park is an example of a high quality public space. This principle aims to enhance the town as a place to walk, cycle, sit and meet:

6. A town for people where a sense of place predominates, with safe, attractive and connected streets and spaces, transport interchange facilitated and good information technology links.



Traffic on Frome Road



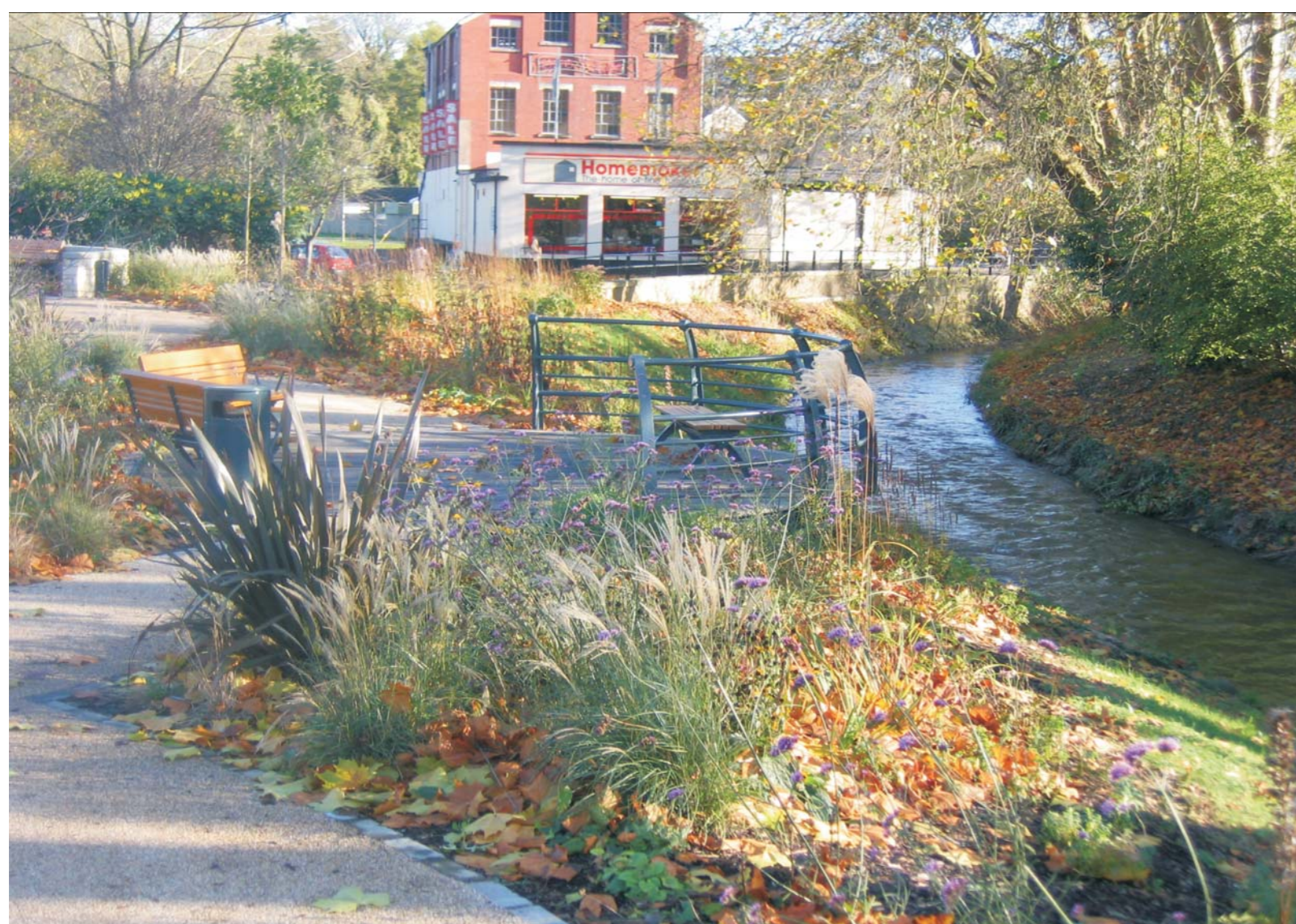
New Memorial Garden

Have your say...

Building Quality and Natural Assets

Radstock has grown up as a distinctive town and a supplier of fossil fuel (coal) in an attractive rural landscape. This provides the town with strengths and potential pointers for the future. The regeneration principle therefore aims to make the most of Radstocks' buildings and green environment as special features and assets for the community. A history of fuel supply could be turned to the towns' advantage in looking to the future:

7. Ensuring a town that is distinctive, urban and green, with a high quality of new building design, buildings that are safe and secure by design, promotion of sustainable energy supply and conservation, with river and green corridors providing for wildlife, recreation and links to the countryside.



Wellow Brook / Greenway

Equality of Opportunity

Radstock has a tradition of seeking to address social and economic disadvantage experienced within the local community. For the future a regeneration principle is therefore:

8. Ensuring the town centre provides for and affords opportunities to all sections of the community.

Have your say on these Regeneration Principles...

Please complete a Regeneration Principles Comments Form, which you will find next to the Regeneration Principles Comments Box on a table nearby. When complete, post your form in the box **OR** you can return this form by post to: Economic Development, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Trimbridge House, Trim Street, Bath. BA1 2DP by Friday 10th March 2006.

You can find further information at www.bathnes.gov.uk. If you require this information in another format please contact Economic Development on 01225 477509.

Have your say...