

Old Cattle Market, Liskeard

Spring Newsletter 2021

Artist's impression of 'Workshed' and community events space



The Old Cattle Market is Changing!

Many local people will have noticed that the old market buildings and stalls are being removed to make way for a new future for the Old Cattle Market. This newsletter sets out the range of exciting projects and activities that are being brought forward to transform the Old Cattle Market and bring more vitality to the town centre, serving residents of Liskeard and the wider area.

Keep informed, get involved

Keeping residents informed and involved is really important. We have launched a website oldcattlemarket.co.uk which will provide news and information as the Old Cattle Market continues to be transformed.

Cattle Market Demolition

A major change has occurred at the Old Cattle Market with physical demolition starting in the first week of January 2021 and due to be completed in April 2021. A permanent site boundary hoarding has been constructed which will display murals created by local graphic designers Print 2 Media telling the history, current plans and the Vision of the cattle market site.

Cornwall Council has identified the need to maintain as much activity on site as possible, to ensure that the character of the Old Cattle Market is not lost during the construction phase. The aim is to enable the businesses in the remaining north side sheds to be able to continue to trade when COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed and for planned events to continue when rules allow.



Demolition in January 2021

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‘Workshed’

Since the closure of the cattle market in December 2017, Cornwall Council, Liskeard Town Council, the community and other partners have been working together to develop proposals to transform the site with a mix of uses that will regenerate the site and support the vitality of the town centre. The first phase of redevelopment involves the construction of ‘Workshed’, which will be located close to the town and provide 17 flexible units aimed at Cornwall’s booming digital and creative industries sectors, supporting around 33 jobs and adding around £1.2m a year to the local economy.

This work is expected to cost around £5.6m and is being financed through a mix of funding including from the Government’s Local Growth Fund, which has been awarded through the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership, the European Regional Development Fund and Cornwall Council’s own investment.



Artist's impression of 'Workshed' interior

In addition to the new workspace, the adjacent car park surface will be re-laid, and a new covered market area will be created, together with high quality public spaces. The planning permission for the work was approved unanimously by Cornwall Council’s East Cornwall Planning Committee last September.

Makers Project including Digital Making Lab (aka Fab Lab)

The Liskeard Cattle Market Makers Project, led by Liskeard Town Council, is another exciting initiative planned for the Cattle Market site. The project will build a community of makers and provide effective start up spaces for smaller artisan or creative businesses. It is in the final stages of a funding application to the Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Programme and it is hoped it will start in the summer.

There will also be a digital making lab (or Fab Lab) enabling users to discover a wide range of cutting-edge manufacturing technologies, such as 3D printing, laser cutting and design software. The lab will be available by appointment to the Makers Project community, as well as the wider Liskeard community, and enables users to digitally design, visualise and test ideas before turning their concepts into reality.

The Digital Making Lab will include:

- Laser cutter
- 3D printer
- Laptops x 2 with graphics cards
- Screen print cabinet
- Print surface

Cornwall Council has committed match funding to make the project deliverable, and the Town Council have provided significant officer time to support the development of the scheme and bids.

Local Produce Market



An already established use on the event space is the Local Produce Market. There is always a wonderful atmosphere and a wide range of food stalls selling local products including locally produced cheese, artisan bread, fermented foods, honeys, natural cordials and locally-distilled gin, as well as a number of talented local crafters and makers. Visitors also take the opportunity to visit the established shops in the town.

Future markets are scheduled for the second Saturday of the month between 10am and 1pm. Produce Markets are planned for 8 May and 12 June 2021. Future Markets once confirmed will be publicised on the Visit Liskeard website on their What’s On calendar <https://www.visitliskeard.co.uk/whats-on/>

Ploughman’s Summer Produce & Craft Market © Pauline Hubner/
Liskeard Ploughman’s Festival

Visit oldcattlemarket.co.uk for news and information as the Old Cattle Market continues to be transformed.

Liskeard in Bloom

It's 5 years since Liskeard in Bloom was set up to regenerate forgotten and neglected parts of town. In that short time, we've filled the town with flowers, and won awards from the Royal Horticultural Society, pitting ourselves against the south-west counties. We are delighted to be part of the Cattle Market project and during lockdown last year, we were asked to help create an event space for outdoor markets. Working alongside our partners in the town council and with generous help from Champions Groundworks, we installed five enormous planters with laurel trees and a cottage garden selection of trailing nasturtiums, petunias, begonias and lavender.

In early 2021, we face our next challenge: the old ATS building, a former tyre fitting garage. Empty for 3 years, it will eventually be part of the new market – but not for some time yet. We were

asked if we could give the building a quick makeover. Yes we could! Combining funding from a Community Chest grant and donations from local businesses, we'll be cleaning down and sprucing up the old building in the coming months. Add a quintet of flowering troughs with a duo of cascading hanging baskets, and we reckon the old place will soon be bringing floral cheer to welcome residents and visitors back into the town. Look out for Dean Street SOS and follow us on Facebook for a progress report.

John Hesketh
Chair of Liskeard in Bloom

Towards a Community and Arts Facility

A consistent part of conversations around the Cattle Market has been the provision of community facilities. As Phase 1 of the regeneration is well underway, focus is now on planning Phase 2 to the west of the site. From January to March 2021 a range of virtual conversations and Zoom workshops were held with key local stakeholders, including Liskeard Town Council, trustees and users of Liskerrett, and other community and arts organisations active in Liskeard and surrounding areas, to help shape a brief for a potential new Community Facility located in the Cattle Market. An important outcome of the engagement process has been a wish expressed to take advantage of Liskerrett's assets base and 18-year track record, and an opportunity to work with a local arts organisation

with complementary skills and objectives, who could be a natural partner to deliver any emerging project. This project clearly depends on further conversations and decisions amongst the community to decide on the best way to approach this opportunity, and there does seem to be a chance to further support Liskeard's important role as a service centre amongst its adjoining rural parishes. We would emphasise a decision has not been made – what is important is the evidence collected from a number of groups that can inform next steps in due course.

Cycle Hub at the Old Cattle Market?

Liskeard Town Council were successful recently with a bid to the Cornwall Council Town Centre Revitalisation Fund for £50,000 for Active Travel. This will fund a feasibility study into cycling, walking and bus improvements in Liskeard to develop and consult on plans which can be used to apply for further funding. A cycling hub, to make Liskeard a local focus for cycling, is part of the thinking to link with the Looe Valley Trail. This sort of activity is vital in maintaining

Liskeard's historic role as a service centre to the adjoining rural parishes. The Old Cattle Market is one of the possible places to explore through the feasibility work but there will be many other ideas and possibilities which need considering – including making sure that any ideas support, complement and work with, or are an extension of, any existing businesses in that sector.

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Background

The Liskeard Neighbourhood Plan, drawn up with extensive community participation, encourages the development of "a mix of uses that support the vitality and viability of the town centre (Cattle Market Policy TC4)". Cornwall Council is working closely with the community to enable these ambitions to be achieved. In March 2019, with the help of central Government funding, a public design workshop or 'Charrette' was held, facilitated by architects JTP, to create a Vision for the Cattle Market, including an illustrative masterplan for the site.

Since then, the detailed planning application drawn up by JTP for Phase I was approved unanimously by Cornwall Council East Planning Committee in September 2020. Phase I will start on site

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this year and includes a new creative industry workspace called 'Workshed' and a covered market area. A range of activities have also taken place in the Town Council's new community events space, including the Local Produce Market. A new Makers project is also underway with a funding from the Community Led Local Development (CLLD) fund.

Future work to progress the regeneration of the Cattle Market site includes talking with community groups and other stakeholders about the further phases of regeneration at the western side of the site. Please look out for further engagement events and you can keep in touch with the progress of the regeneration of Liskeard cattle market on oldcattlemarket.co.uk.

Phase I Programme

Planning Determination	Demolition Work		Construction Work	
End Sept 2020	Start Dec 2020	Finish April 2021	Start May 2021	Finish June 2022

New Hoardings

New Community Events Space

As part of the regeneration of the Cattle Market a new open air community event space has been allocated to the east of the site, adjacent to the new Workshed and covered events area sites. The space is managed by the Town Council and will be available for a range of cultural, performance and market events organised by local groups and partners. If you are interested in organising a public event there please contact the Town Council at reception@liskeard.gov.uk.



Artist's impression of the market event space