

Bus shelter

Non-confidential

Report by: Parish Clerk

Date: 07/04/26

Report to: Parish Council 03/2026

The bus shelter adjacent to the flagpole belongs to Heighington Parish Council. It sits within the Heighington Conservation Area (see Appendix A).

In September 2007 NKDC published a document entitled 'Heighington Conservation Area - An Assessment of the Character and Appearance of the Conservation Area'. This referred to the *'concrete block bus shelter'*, identifying it as *'one of the few elements that detract from the quality of the older parts of the Conservation Area'*. The report goes on to identify *'opportunities in the future to resolve these conflicts'* and says, *'The bus shelter could be replaced, possibly with a gable roofed building built of coursed limestone rubble with a slate or pantiled roof'*.

The Heighington Parish Council Action Plan 2023-27 identifies, under the heading 'Local Environment', a longer-term activity to 'Consider future opportunity to replace the bus shelter with one which is more sympathetic to the Conservation Area'.

Bus shelter condition

There has been no recent structural survey of the bus shelter. On the underside of the roof there is layer of compressed chipboard, one piece of which is sagging. There is a large crack on the rear of the shelter, and there have been plants growing out of this. There is also another crack on the end nearest the flagpole.



Large crack at rear of bus shelter



Smaller crack



Chipboard on ceiling

LCC Bus Shelter Grant Scheme

LCC recently issued details of its Bus Shelter Grant Scheme, which provides a contribution towards the cost of a new bus shelter for the community or for repairs or updates to an existing shelter (up to a maximum of £3000).

There are specific conditions tied to this scheme (see separate document for details of the Scheme).

Possible options, should Council decide it wants to apply for the Grant

(The following information has been pulled together by Cllrs Sockell and Buckley-Jones).

Option 1: Replace the Flagpole bus shelter on High Street

Littlethorpe of Leicester Ltd provide bus shelters that are constructed from FSC¹ wood and can be fitted with a living roof. This manufacturer is the only one that provides bus shelters that would fit into the conservation area as all the others looked at just provide metal/glass shelters.

Littlethorpe bus shelters arrive fully assembled on the back of a crane lorry ready to be delivered into pre prepared foundations. Installation of a shelter can either be done using a local NRSWA² qualified contractor or alternatively Littlethorpe can supply and install the shelter as a 'one stop shop'.

'Eaton' is the closest design to existing shelter £6,795

We would also need to factor in the cost of a possible planning application and other necessary paperwork plus demolition and removal of existing bus shelter, preparation of the ground and other installation costs.

www.bus-shelters.co.uk

Option 2: Retrofit bus shelter on High Street with a living roof

If we decide not to replace the bus shelter on the High Street Externiture Ltd offer a refurbishment service including fitting a living roof. The roof will need to be replaced at some point in the near/medium future as it is starting to deteriorate.

However, if we do decide to replace the shelter then is it worth spending money now? We just need to put money aside in Designated Reserves.

<https://externiture.com/bus-shelter-refurbishment>

Option 3: Install a bus shelter at the junction of Canterbury Drive/Washingborough Road

This is another very busy bus stop, particularly when buses are diverted away from the centre of Heighington. It is not in the conservation area, so we do not have the concerns of appearance.

We are not sure who owns the strip of land by the actual stop – homeowner or LCC. The fence panelling is away from the border of the path but is mown by the homeowner.

¹ Forest Certification System

² New Roads and Street Works Act 1991

Externiture provide a mono bus shelter that can be configured to any basic design and also incorporate a living roof. We would need to prepare the ground before installation. At the moment we don't have any prices from Externiture for a shelter or a refurbishment.

https://externiture.com/bus-shelters/mono_bus_shelters

Ace Shelters also provide bus shelters. Again, we would have to provide ready groundwork before installation. These cost c. £4,000 and includes installation.

www.aceshelters.co.uk

Shelters 4 Less offer very basic shelters from £1,000 but no living roof options.

<https://www.shelters4less.co.uk/Shelters-Walkways-Canopies/Waiting-Shelters>

Recommendation

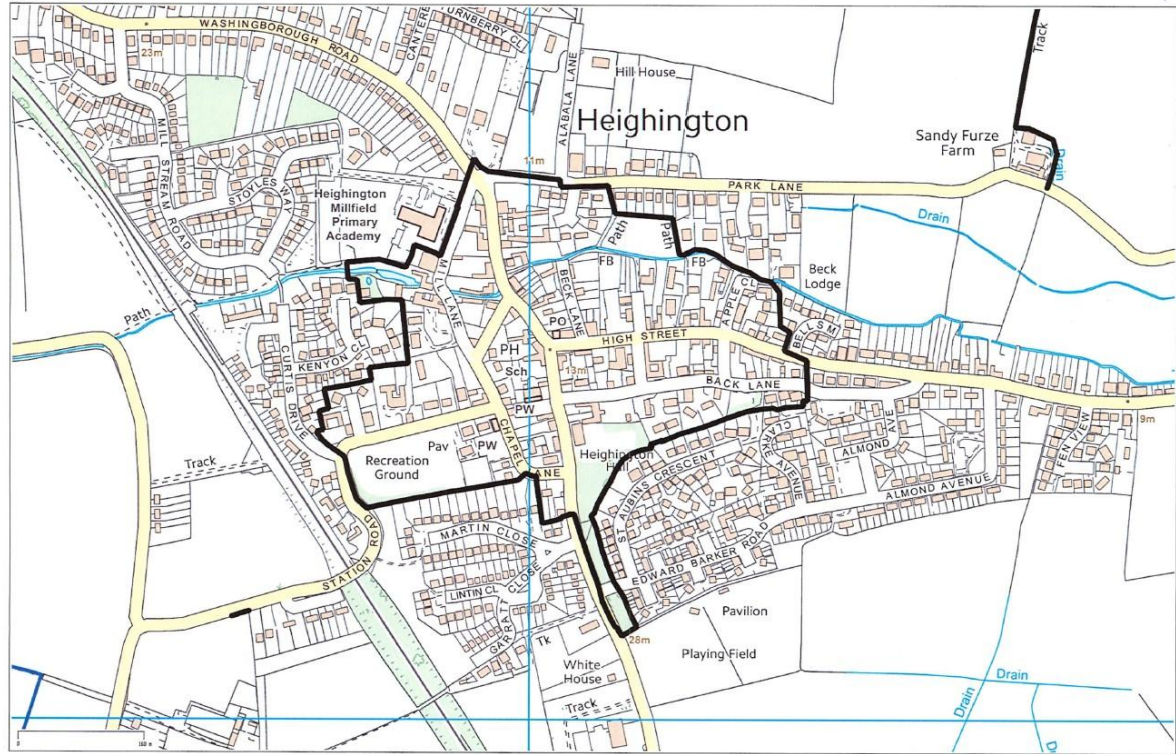
1. Council gets an up-to-date assessment of the integrity of the structure. This is required under our Health & Safety obligations. Any issues flagged will need to be addressed,
2. Council considers the longer-term plans for the bus shelter, taking into account that any substantial works such as replacement of all or part of structure would require relevant permissions and funding.

Appendix A – Map of Heighington Conservation Area



Heighington Conservation Area

Heighington CP



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