

Portaferry Public Realm Scheme

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

Edition no: 8: 16/02/24

Welcome to the eighth 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.



New paving works on the west side of The Square outside No.16

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

Northstone Ltd have commenced the main civil works within Market Square and have started excavation works behind Market House. There will be further excavation works as Northstone begin to lay new ducting for the streetlights, the new feature lighting and the 3no power bollards within the new pedestrian area. Residents and businesses will now be able to see the general layout of the new Square as approx. 90% of the new kerbs have been laid all around the Market House building.

Paving works began at the start of February along the west side of the Square from No16 and the crew will work its way down to No22 before moving to the lower side of Market House. Hopefully it will not be long until some of the pedestrian safety barriers can be removed, and sections of newly finished footway opened up.

The utility providers are continuing to work in areas ahead of Northstone Ltd to lower existing services and to provide a new power service connection to the Square. This will involve a full road closure across the top of the Square however access to business will remain as normal.

MARKET SQUARE BUS SERVICE

Due to the Public Realm works starting in Market Square, the bus service is changing until further notice as follows;

Service 9b / 9 / 10b / 10a / 10 / 10d

Service 9 will depart from Portaferry Depot main gate and turn right onto normal service.
Service 10 will depart from Portaferry Depot main gate, High Street, Ann Street and Coach Road onto normal service.

Further information can be found on the Translink website <https://www.translink.co.uk/service-updates>

REMOVAL OF BT TELEPHONE BOX

BT have advised that the telephone box at Market Square is to be removed permanently due to lack of use.

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Schedule of Works

The below schedule of works gives an idea of the proposed plan and dates of works in each area however please note that this is subject to change as the works commence. Keep an eye on the future newsletters and the website,

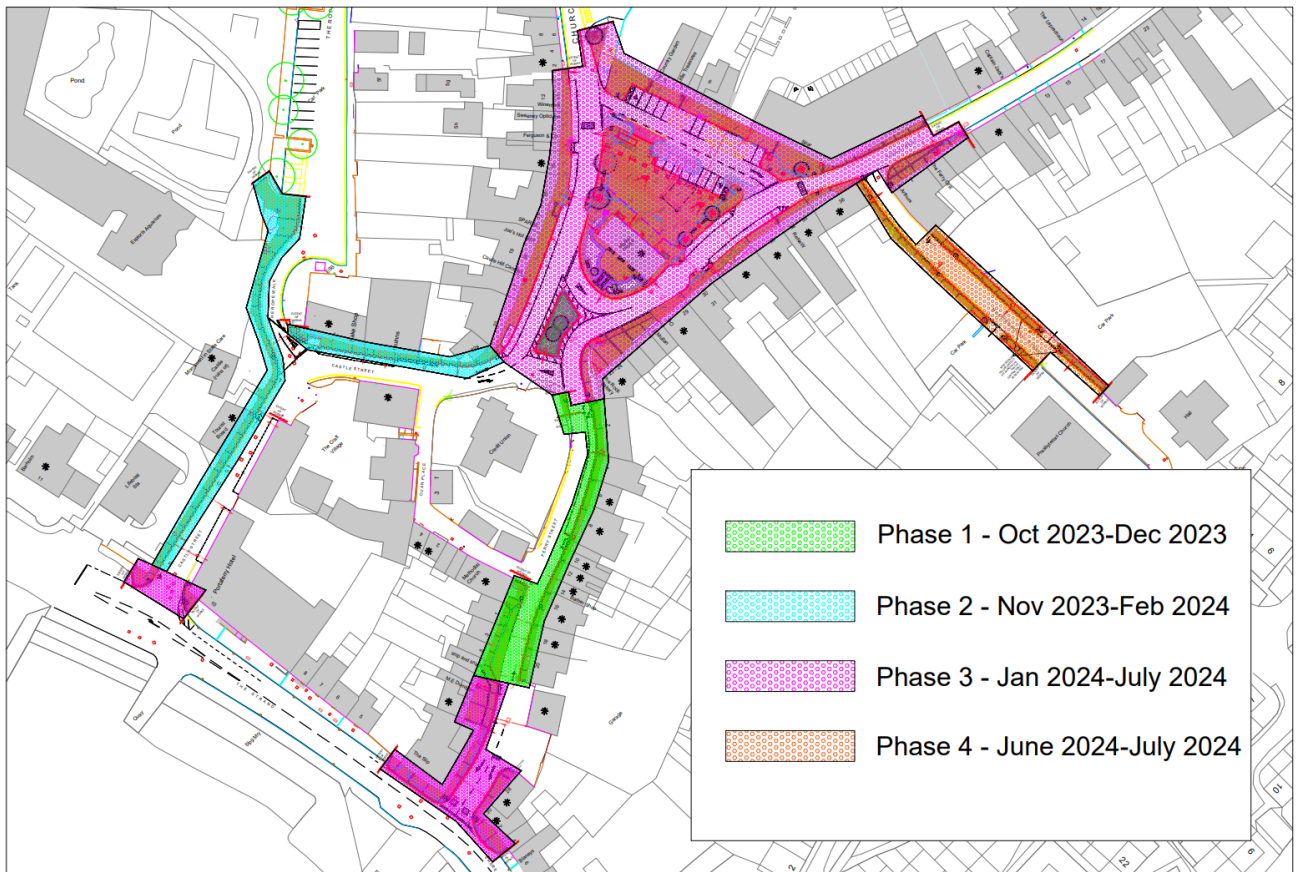
www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/portaferrypublicrealm for regular updates on the planned works.

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 – July 2024**

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



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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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