



Briefing Note – Civic Amenity Improvements

Date 12 May 2025
Prepared by Town Clerk

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. The Bay Place suggested

“Landscape and aesthetics also play a role in the appeal of safe cycling and walking links. Thoughtful landscaping and greenery can make these pathways more pleasant and inviting. Benches, rest areas, and public art installations enhance the overall experience, making the journey as enjoyable as the destination”

1.2. In response to the plan the Town Council identified a number of art projects which would improve civic amenities in Sandown. The designs for two of these projects are now being brought forward for Council decision.

2. LOS ALTOS PARK – LOG BENCHES

2.1. Recent tree works in Los Altos park have provided a unique opportunity to provide benches in the park in keeping with the surrounding area and making use of the trees which had to be cut down.

2.2. Officers recommend the trunks are retained and carved into decorative benches. Images and design options can be found at Appendix A.

3. EASTERN GARDENS STEPS MURAL

3.1. Murals have been identified as effective “Urban Acupuncture” with evidence showing they promote a sense of community and belonging and encourage regeneration at a local level.

3.2. As such Officers are recommending painting of a mural of Mary Ellis and an information plaque on the Changing Places (CP) building next to the beach huts she holidayed in as a child. Links to the Wight Aviation Museum in Lake.

3.3. The proposed design can be found at Appendix B.

4. LEGAL BASIS

Los Altos Benches

4.1. Town and Parish Councils may improve lands for the purpose of being used as public walks or pleasure grounds under the Public Health Act 1875 c. 55 (Regnal. 38 and 39 Vict) Part IV Public Pleasure Grounds, Section 164¹

¹ [Public Health Act 1875](#)

Eastern Gardens Steps Mural

- 4.2. The Town Council has the power to support the development and improvement of the knowledge, understanding and practice of the Arts from The Local Government Act 1972 c. 70 Part VII – Miscellaneous - Section 145²

5. COSTS

Los Altos Benches

- 5.1. The costs relating to the benches can be found in the confidential Appendix C.

Eastern Gardens Steps Mural

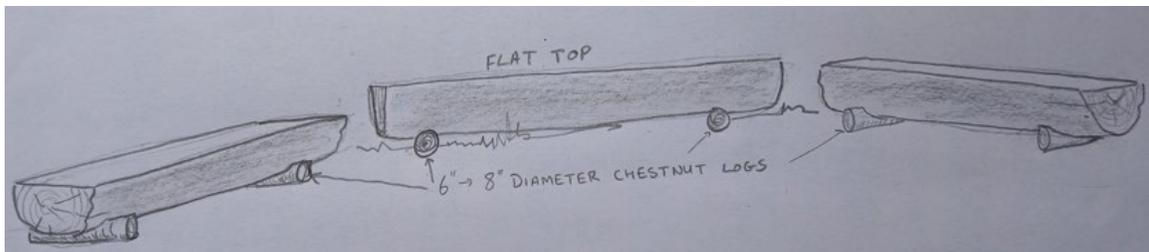
- 5.2. The costs relating to the mural have been agreed by a previous council.

² [Local Government Act 1972](#)

Appendix A – Log Benches

Option A:

To raise logs off the ground and put flat tops on them. Simple and functional!

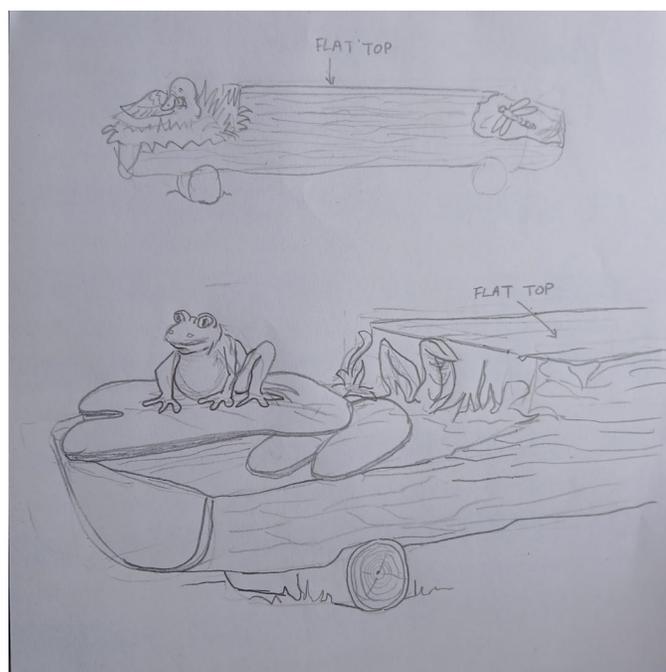


Option B:

To raise logs off the ground, put flat tops on them and carve designs, into one end.

Option C:

To raise logs off the ground, put flat tops on them and carve designs, into both ends.





Appendix B – May Elis Mural

