

5.3 Masterplan Option 2: New Locks

5.3.1 New Locks

The vision shown in Option 2 is to have new locks. There will be site excavation, which will be an opportunity to document the old locks and show case this to the public for a limited period of time. This layout has been designed with the assumption that this scenario will be managed and maintenance by the Local Authority.

1 New Locks

- New locks (reference engineers drawings 10516653-ARC-ZZZ-M3-ZZ-00008/00010/00011)
- Levels and location broadly in line with original canal
- Potential for open lock restoration attraction
- Pedestrian bridge west of locks near bridge arches provides access to site north of canal - bridge no wider than 1.4m

2 Event space and grass amphitheatre

- High quality paved public realm area adjacent to the south side of the canal and boat lift creating event space
- Soft landscaped grass amphitheatre creating informal seating for event space and informal/natural play opportunity
- Terraces feed into arches of road bridge
- Scattered native tree planting
- Bonded gravel path giving access to and from elevated cycle way
- Amphitheatre affords viewing opportunities

3 Elevated cycleway and footway

- New shared use footway/cycleway to be modified to use arch 4

4 Service/plant room

- Open access with area of hardstanding around
- Hedged to screen from view

5 Café/kiosk

- Small kiosk housing café/visitor information centre

6 Winding hole

- Area for boats to turn
- Towpath extended to link to Percival Lane

7 Car park

- Access via Rutland Street - to car park and for routine maintenance vehicles
- Reduced number from masterplan - 15 standard spaces and 3 disabled spaces
- Native hedgerow and low growing shrub areas screen car parking

8 Community orchard

- Area planted with fruiting trees (the fruit variety planting extends to the avenue of trees leading in from Rutland Street and within the native hedgerow surrounding the community food production space)
- Wild flower planting areas between trees aids pollination and increases biodiversity

9 Green space

- Amenity grass areas for informal recreation and play
- Avenue tree planting

10 Community food production and event space

Community food growing area includes:

- Wide paths for access for all to gardening
- Raised beds
- Central seating area/events space
- Sheds
- Wildflower planting areas
- Native hedgerow incorporating native and fruit tree planting
- Gated access
- Accessed via informal hoggin paths

11 Future cycle link (proposed as part of 12 below)

- Housing development layout indicates opportunity for pedestrian link east of Rutland Street to the east and to the underpass.
- Pedestrian access has been provided from community food production area through hedge to cycle and pedestrian link to provide easy link with existing/proposed new housing to the north

12 Future development site (housing)

- Access shown based on layouts in Runcorn Community Housing Project Feasibility Study (reference document RCHP-EWA-XX-XX-RP-A-00001 Rev A 19.05.2022)

5.3.2 Site Layout Plan

KEY

- 1 New locks
- 2 Event space and grass amphitheatre
- 3 Elevated cycle way
- 4 Plant/control/services building
- 5 Café/kiosk
- 6 Winding hole
- 7 Car parking
- 8 Community orchard and wildflower planting
- 9 Green space
- 10 Community food production and event space
- 11 Future cycle link (proposed as part of item 12 below)
- 12 Future development site (housing)



Figure 05-5: Option 2 - Strategic Option - Site Layout Plan