

CRESCENT CAR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Client: Somerset West and Taunton Council

Value: £1.399m

Duration: 23 weeks

Project Detail

Crescent Car Park is a surface parking area, in Taunton city centre. It is served by a highway access road and surrounded by service areas to a variety of retail businesses, mixed with residential properties. It has been developed via a gradual integration of other unused areas, lacking overall vision in terms of organisation, aesthetics, or the fulfilment of specific purposes. This scheme has provided an attractive area with high-quality planting, street furniture, and state of the art electric vehicle charging, as exciting new features. We secured the project through competitive open tender and delivered the entirety of the works as principal contractor.

It has involved complexities amending and working around existing services. HV electricity supplies have had to be updated for a blend of 19 fast and slow EV chargers. Techniques like vacuum excavation have been used to safely progress. Efficient phasing has maintained 50% of original parking capacity throughout the construction, and continuous service access to the retail stakeholders.

Ground bearing tests undertaken early in the programme have delivered savings in reduced construction depths. Modern fabrics to strengthen flexible pavement layers have aided this. We have sought to guide and collaborate. Where reconstruction has been necessary, we have dealt with contaminants, (predominantly asbestos), to best practice. A solid supply chain has provided high quality coloured and textured pavements.

Work included drainage, and groundworks for the charging units. We've completed the reconstruction of a section of highway at the access, with a mini roundabout together with street lighting improvements, tree pits, and stylish new street furniture. Programming with a fast start from receipt of order has been about managing lead-ins around planting, street furniture and EV chargers.





Figure 1: Guide wall formers are placed and tied