



KENILWORTH ARTS FESTIVAL - BEAUTIFUL BENCHES

ARTIST PROPOSAL INFORMATION

As an extension of the Talisman Project (which has brought about significant improvements, including planting, artwork and additional benches in Talisman Square) we are inviting local artists, schools and community groups to submit proposals to create their own 'Beautiful Bench' in Kenilworth.

The aim is to create functional pieces of art that become a destination and in the longer-term part of a culture trail around the Town.

Initially funding is available to rejuvenate up to 7 existing benches, which we hope will include places like;

- The bench opposite the entrance to Sainsbury's car park and surrounding space
- Local shopping areas; Oaks Precinct, Millar Court, Albion Street, Talisman Square, Abbey End.
- Public transport points; Kenilworth Station and local bus stops
- Benches in good meeting spots, or with great views or which just provide a stop-off along the way.

WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR;

Imagination and creativity in your design of the bench and the surrounding space.

Consideration for sustainability; how you re-cycle or re-purpose materials

How you will increase greenery or develop existing planting to improve biodiversity

Ways in which you will encourage community involvement by local groups or individuals.

The potential to create a social connection point.



WE BELIEVE BENCHES ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE;

- Seating is a critical part of daily social life.
- A nice place to sit welcomes you to a town or city.
- Bench-space allows people to loosely belong within the flow of daily life, to see and be seen.
- A bench is a possible beginning of new contact.
- Benches are symbols of what it means for space to be shared.
- A bench encourages people to walk, because there will be somewhere to rest.
- The invitation of sitting makes no further demands: no price tag, dress code or length of stay.

A bench is, after all, a place for socialising – meeting with friends, conversing with strangers, feeding the birds, walking our dogs, admiring the views or spending moments with others.

YOUR PROPOSAL SHOULD;

Fit on one side of A4 paper

Include a short description of your idea, a sketch, plan or images and basic costings (which can include materials, equipment, artists commission fee and expenses up to £500 in total).

Be sent to info@kenilworthartsfestival.co.uk by Monday 21 February 2022

Include your name, email and contact telephone number.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL AND WE'LL BE HAPPY TO ARRANGE AN INFORMAL CHAT TO DISCUSS YOUR IDEAS FURTHER.

