



**Bishop Lucey Park**  
Design Statement

13.07.2021

Rev  
**PL01** 13/07/21 Part 8 Submission

HALL McKNIGHT









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# 1

## *Introduction*

- 1.1 *Overview*
- 1.2 *Project Team*
- 1.3 *Planning Context*
- 1.4 *Competition Proposal*

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 OVERVIEW

### Introduction

This Design Statement forms a component of a Part 8 Application, prepared by Hall McKnight on behalf of Cork City Council (CCC) for the redevelopment of Bishop Lucey Park in Cork City Centre. This document is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying Part 8 Application drawings and documents also submitted as part of this application. The location of the site and extents of the site boundary are indicated on the adjacent location plan.

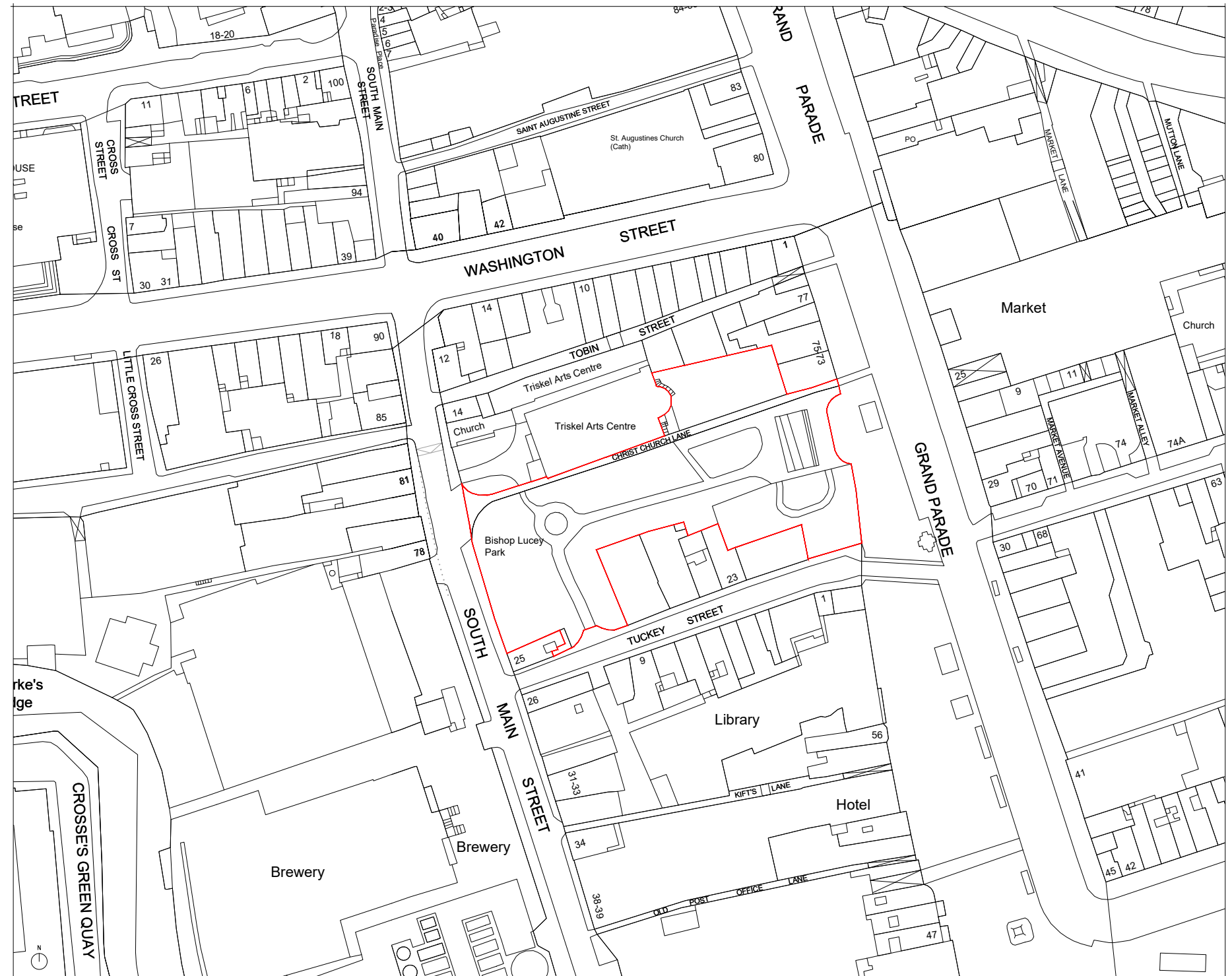
The site area is approximately 4652sqm (0.4652ha) in size. There are a number of existing trees located within the boundary of the site, and a mixture of hard and soft landscaping. The site contains an existing fountain and sculpture to the west, and an exposed element of the Medieval City Wall to the east. The site is currently bounded by walls and gates to the entire perimeter. With pedestrian access from Grand Parade via by the existing arched entrance gates. Controlled pedestrian access is also permitted from South Main Street and Tuckey Street.

The site is not accessible to vehicles and there is no designated car parking within the boundary of the site.

### Project Background

Hall McKnight were appointed to the project by CCC after being announced the winners of an RIAI competition for the site in summer 2019. The proposals include the renewal of Bishop Lucey Park, whilst holding onto the following core values, as defined in CCC's brief:

- A Place for All: A public space which encourages multi-generational participation and enjoyment in formal and informal situations.
- Pedestrian linkage & movement: The proposals should form a coherent part of a network of public spaces, and a movement network providing pedestrian access which is frequent, direct and connects visually back into the existing street network.
- Archaeology & Protected Structures: Improve the legibility of the presentation of the Medieval Wall back to the city and express the location/significance of Christchurch Lane.
- Landscape Character: Although an urban park, the proposals should provide a variety of varying spaces and experiences
- Active & passive recreation: Catering for all age groups.
- Safety & Security: Encouraging footfall through the site by integrating the park more coherently within its urban context, and thereby improving passive surveillance.



Site Location Plan  
(Not to Scale)

— Indicative Site Boundary

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.2 PROJECT TEAM

### **Project Team**

In developing the proposals described in this document and other supporting information provided as part of the Part 8 Application, Hall McKnight have been working alongside:

- Architect/Team Lead: Hall McKnight
- Landscape: Hall McKnight & Brady Shipman Martin
- Archaeology: Lane Purcell Archaeology
- Civil/Structural Engineer: Horgan Lynch
- Mechanical & Electrical Engineer: O'Connor Sutton Cronin
- Quantity Surveyor: Tony O'Regan Associates
- PSDP: Hasco Europe
- EIA/AA Screening: Brady Shipman Martin

## 1.3 PLANNING CONTEXT

### **Relevant Planning Documents/Legislation**

- Cork City Centre Movement Strategy
- Cork City Council Corporate Plan
- Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021



# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.4 COMPETITION PROPOSAL



Hall McKnight Competition boards

### Introduction

As mentioned in Section 1.1 of this document, Hall McKnight were appointed by CCC after being announced winners of an RIAI competition for the project. The images above and on the facing page describe our competition proposals. The fundamental principles of the project are retained in our Part 8 proposals, with some adjustments being incorporated following input from CCC and input from our consultant team.



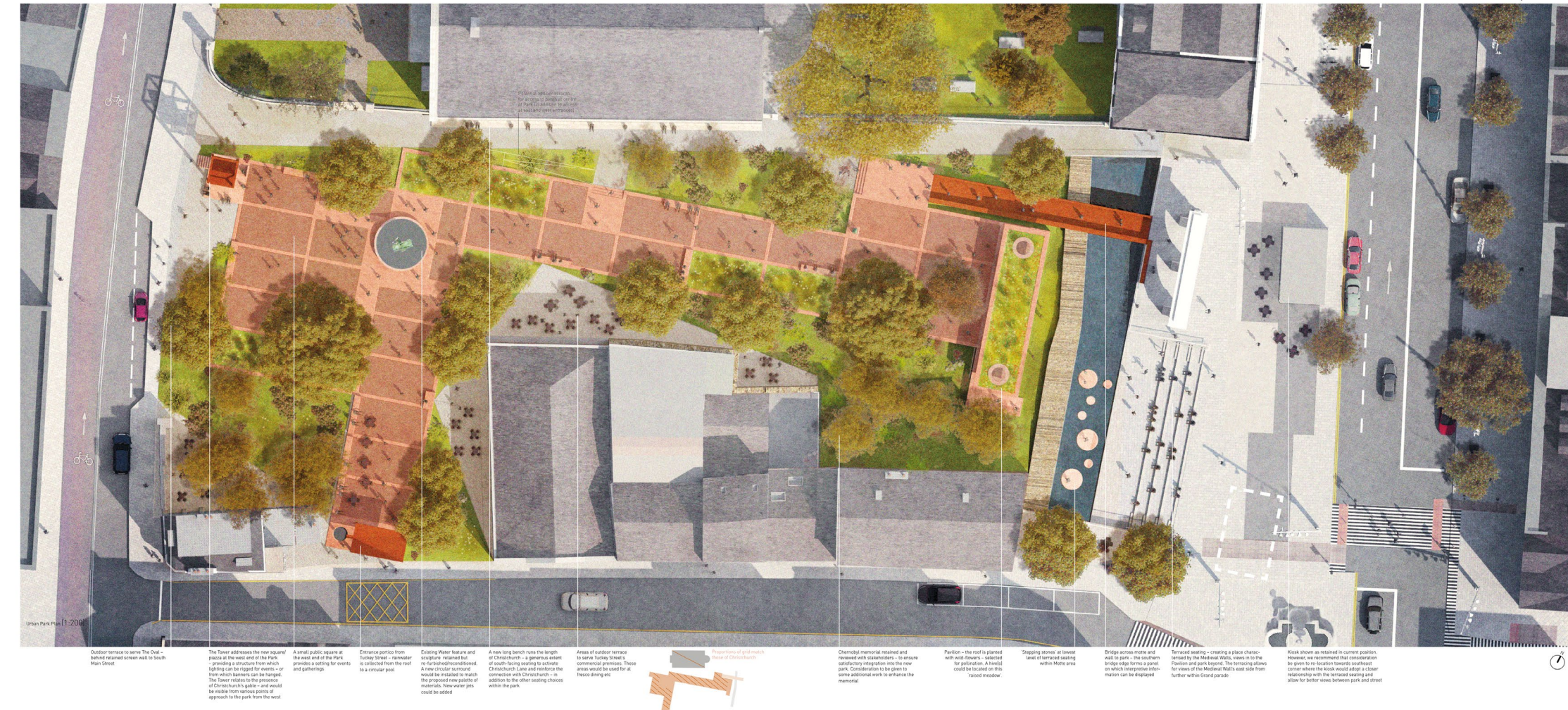
Hall McKnight Competition concept sketch



# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.4 COMPETITION PROPOSAL

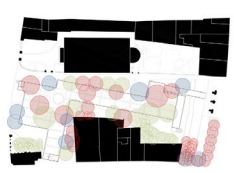
Entry ID: 202085



### Bishop Lucey Park

A gridded plinth runs through the park and is orientated to align with the Arches on Grand Parade - its plan profile staggered to define varying widths of surface in response to the site's shape and geometry. The proportion of the grid's module is derived from Christchurch's plan. Its responsive platform anticipates varying modes of use and occupation. To the west, the plinth accommodates a small public square or Piazza - designed to accommodate varying types of events/occupation. A Tower - a small campanile - overlooks the Piazza and provides an infrastructure to support events lighting, hanging banners etc. Through the centre of the Park, the plinth is at its most narrow - offering an open pathway amongst the trees with sufficient width to also accommodate seating and planted bays. To the east, the plinth widens again to address the Pavilion, the linear figure of the Medieval Wall, and Grand Parade.

We propose a palette of materials that combine to make the landscape and coloured plinth - these materials include red granite with green granite contrast with recycled red brick aggregate. Concrete and stained glass panels.



The Park is defined as much by its trees as it might be forming the new dimension that we have proposed. Our strategy is to assess the existing trees in terms of health and their effect in terms of shading etc. - we would propose to remove a number of trees long some trees directly adjacent to Christchurch's south facade - to provide a green wall to the building from contributing to the Park's character as much as it could but also to plant some new trees (planted to offer some additional spatial definition e.g. at the west end of the park).

Legend:  
Retained  
New  
Removed



The plinth is structured around a grid whose proportions replicate those of Christchurch. This grid, which lending the proposed a sense of order and rhythm, is presented as an informal, curved plan figure - aligned with the geometry of the arches thereby placed in relation to the more formal presence of Christchurch. The grid is envisaged as a framework which can accommodate a variety of adjustments and conditions - from seating to trees, steps to level surfaces. The base of the plinth is established at its west end - running approximately east-west to parallel the base of the Pavilion figure. Situated above Grand Parade where it offers a vantage point looking over the wall - a view from within the walls of the Medieval city to the 'new' city beyond.

