

# Design Considerations

## Trees and biodiversity

The St Clare site and surrounding area has a pleasant landscape and built form with numerous mature trees and areas of green space. The mature landscape underpins the site's character and should form the basis for design of future development of the site.

An initial survey has identified the trees which provide the most significant public visual amenity and add to the character and setting of the Listed Building. The trees along the pedestrian route to the west should also be retained.

The trees and dense vegetation that surround the site not only screen it but also important natural habitat.

Redevelopment of the site should seek to maintain and enhance the existing biodiversity corridors through and around the site.



## Movement

### Highway access

Currently there are five separate vehicular entrances/ exits in close proximity to each other which create conflict with the pedestrian routes around and within the site.

Initial advice is to close the Hockey Club lane to vehicles and the current exit from the Council car park. Widen the entrance to Council car park to allow two way movement and also widen the route to the leisure centre to provide a better two way entrance into this part of the site.

### Footpaths

Retain and enhance the existing public footpath that runs west of the existing Council offices to GEMS Bolitho School.

Re-provide the permissive footpath east of the council offices alongside an improved vehicular access to the leisure centre to take advantage of the existing crossing point.

