

# Making Chelsea Road centre thrive

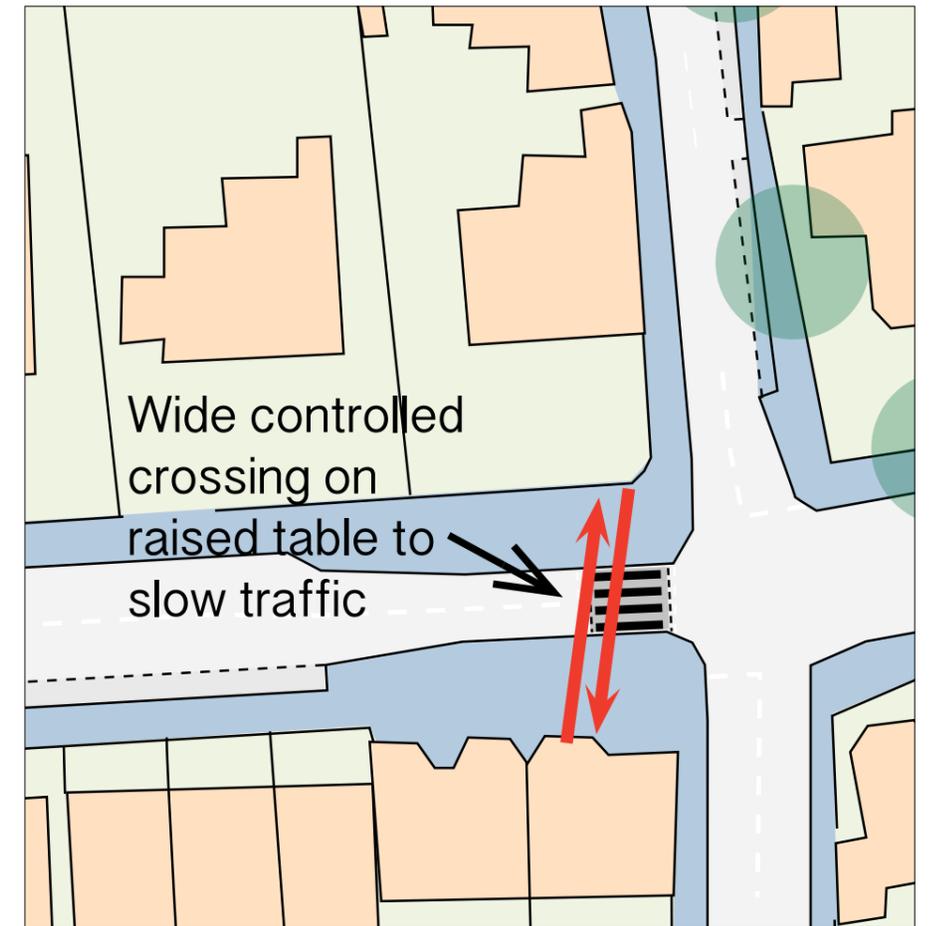
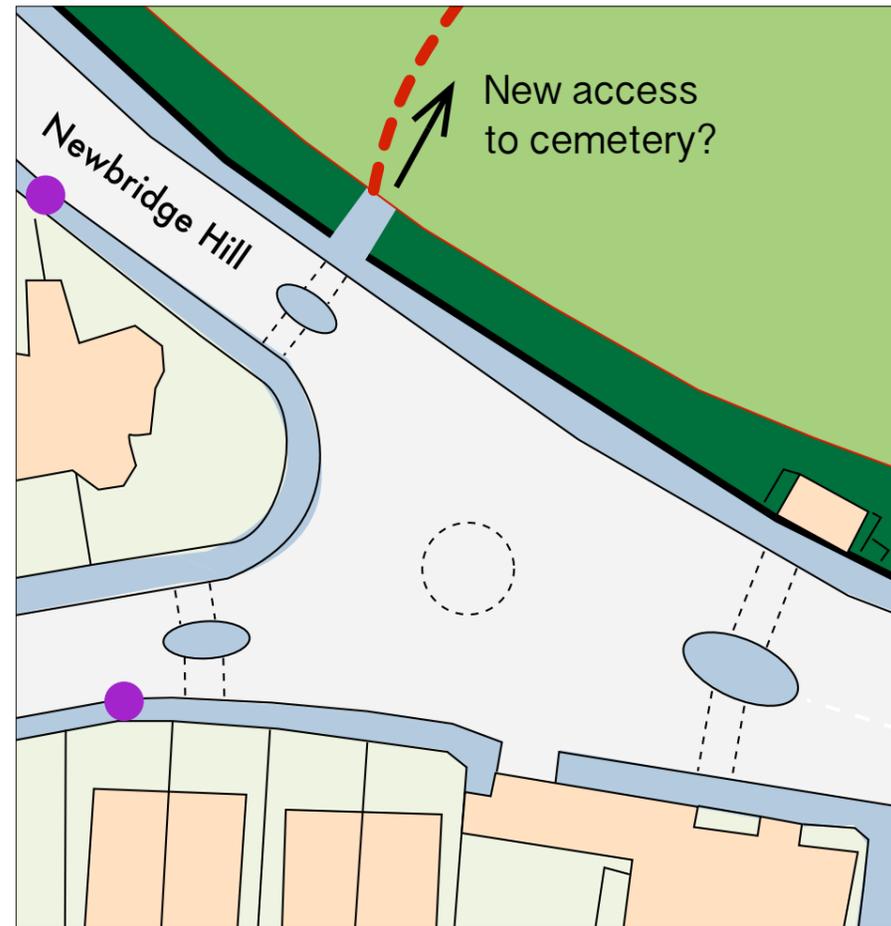
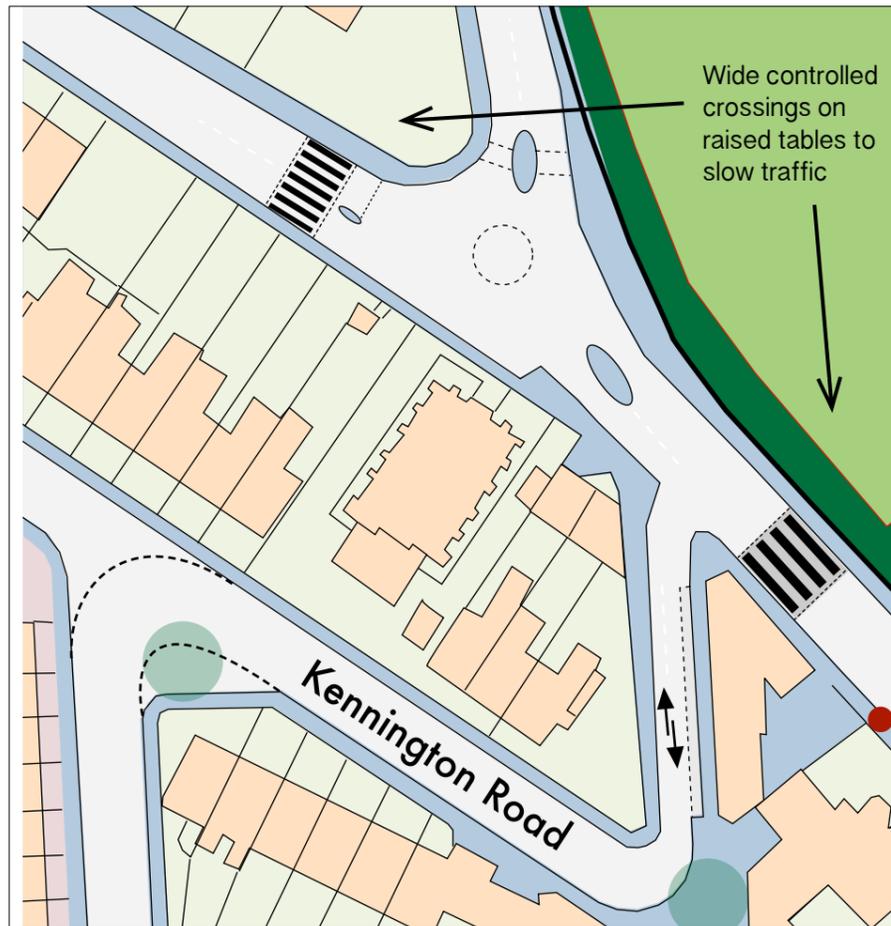
Chelsea Road sits at the centre of a densely-populated residential area of Bath and offers a wide range of independent shops to the local population. The aim of this project is to promote and enhance walking and other non-car access to Chelsea Road by providing safer access and an improved environment.



Chelsea Road, Bath



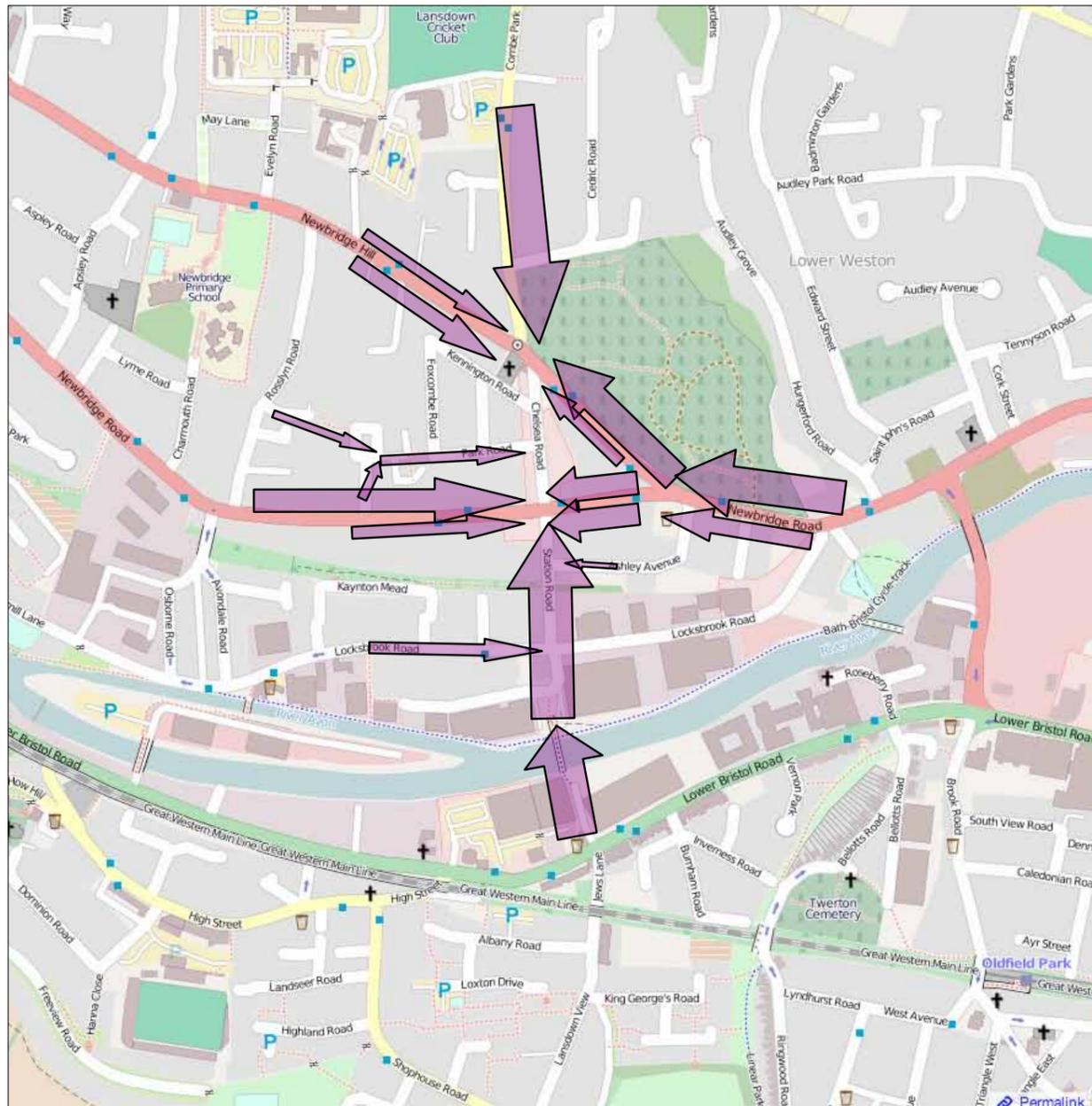
The unanimous decision of a design group made up of local residents was that Chelsea Road should be closed to through traffic. The impact on Kennington Road and Park Road would be monitored. The suggested design will provide a pedestrianised central sector, permitting safe crossing and allowing activity to extend into a new public space. Trees and street furniture would both improve the appearance of the street and, by interrupting views along the road, deter its use as a vehicle rat-run. There would be no net loss of parking spaces but an increase in the number of cycle racks.



In order to improve safety for pedestrians crossing the road en route to and from Chelsea Road it's suggested that pavements could be widened to slow down traffic. A wide controlled crossing on a raised table opposite The Crown would provide a safe crossing point, giving improved access to the shops.

Chelsea Road is favoured as a rat-run in part because traffic is currently not permitted to turn between Newbridge Hill and Newbridge Road. It may be possible to relax this restriction, altering the junction layout while retaining the traffic lights to allow pedestrians safe crossing.

Relocating the controlled crossing closer to the Chelsea Road junction will align it with the north/south pedestrian desire line, improving the link to the post office and other shops on the south side of Newbridge Road. Widening the pavement will slow traffic and make crossing the road both easier and safer.



The maps illustrate existing pedestrian routes and densities (top left) and, above, the potential for opening up new, car-free access through the closed Locksbrook Cemetery. At present there's no access from much of its perimeter (e.g. from Cedric Road, left). Opening up the cemetery and extending the pathways would benefit local residents and other users, with safe, traffic-free routes for both walkers and cyclists, particularly children.