

Is it worth us pursuing a shared space demo in Stratford?

The County Council's recent Walkable Core project prepared by Arups covered a relatively large area and raised concerns about removal of on-street parking. The following alternative scheme was presented at the Arup's Seminar on shared space, but it was already too late.

What is proposed a demonstration project in Windsor Street -- just the section from Guild Street to Mansell Street, although it may be better to do the whole length of Windsor Street up to Greenhill Street. It would be done in phases as follows:

- (i) Pass the Traffic regulation Order (TRO), or whatever you do to create a controlled zone (as per the Historic Core Zones project).
- (ii) Launch a competition to design the signs at the entrances to the zone (as done in Bury St Edmunds).
- (iii) Install signs and immediately install road humps, like those in the Maybird Centre.
- (iv) Remove all road signs and markings in the controlled zone.
- (v) When some funds are available, change the surface colour and texture of the road pavement to show that it is a different space – no longer simply a road.
- (vi) When "real" money is available, extend the surface treatment in Henley Street throughout the controlled zone.
- (vii) Monitor the impact in terms of road accidents and public reaction.

Could a modest scheme like this work and enable us to test a strategy that could then be rolled out elsewhere in the town and County? Since no parking spaces are lost, elected members should re relatively indifferent to this trial.