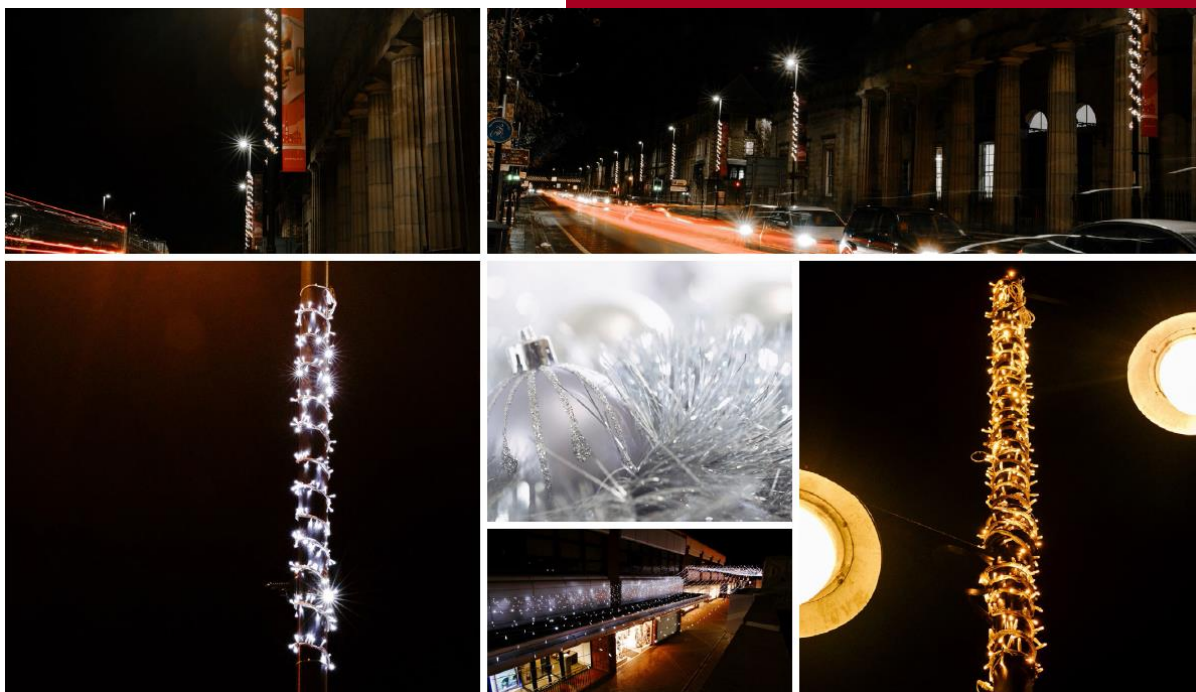


2018

Christmas Decorations



Mark Speller

Lowestoft Town Council

9/3/2018

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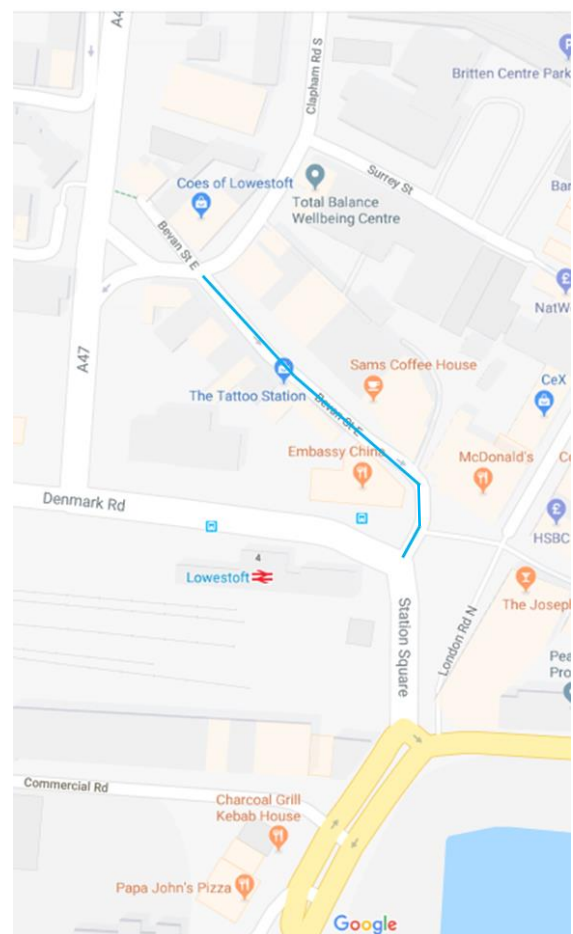
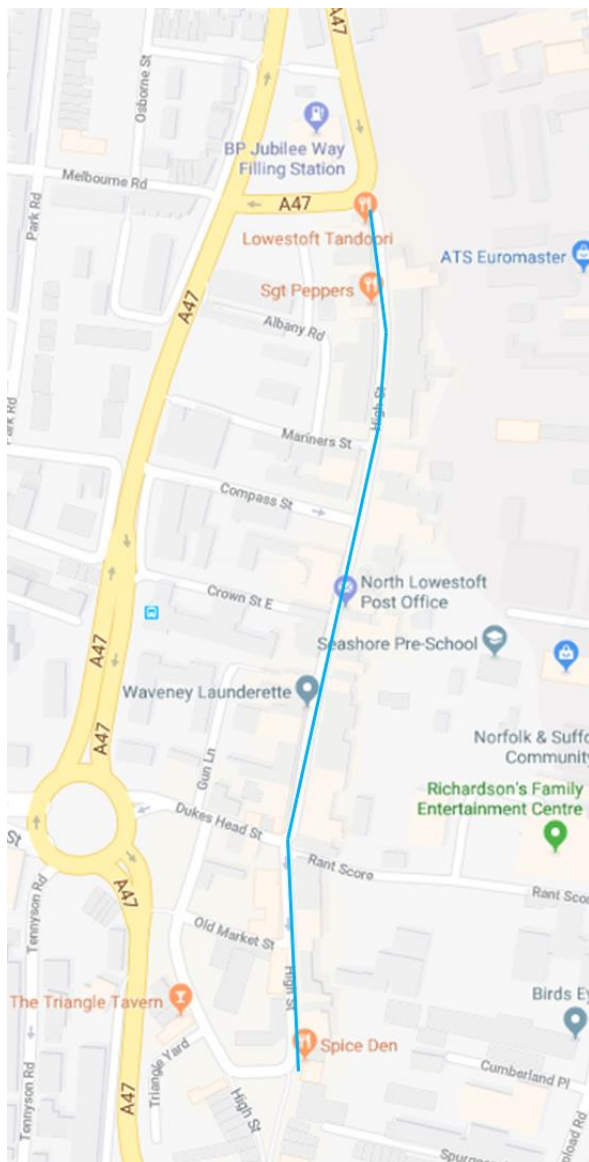
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Introduction

It is Lowestoft Town Council's (LTC) aspiration to add to the Christmas light offering in the town. It is worth noting that the current display focuses on the main London Road North parade of outlets up to the southern fringe of the Triangle Market. Initially it is thought that LTC could add to this by carrying the lighting up the High Street to meet with Yarmouth Road as well as an offering from the corner of Bevan Street East (McDonalds) up to the A47.

Initial scope

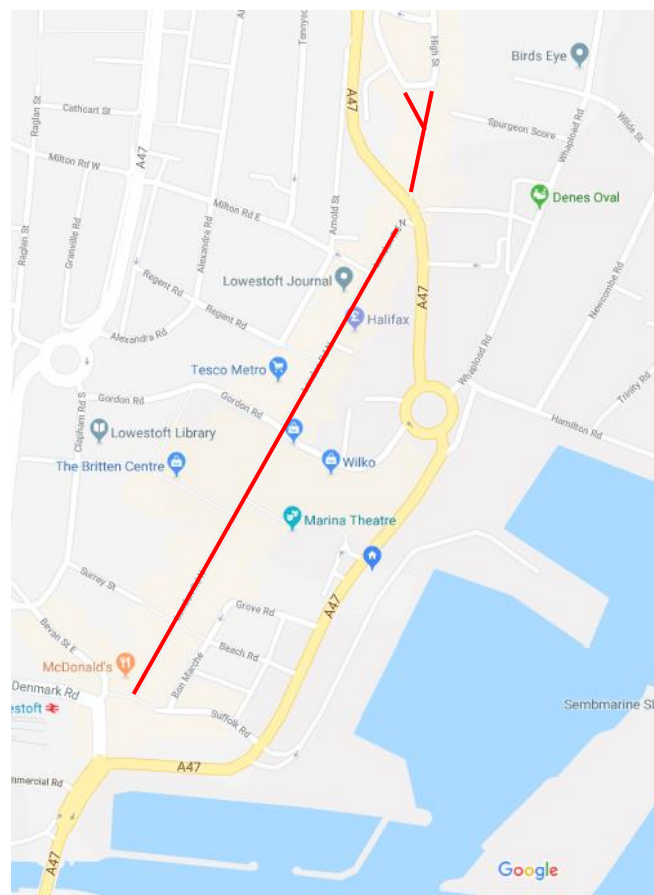
An initial meeting was set up with Blachere Illuminations Ltd a reputable lighting company with the Mayor of Lowestoft, the Facilities and Contracts Manager (FCM) and a representative from Lowestoft Vision; Dan Poitras. It was made clear that lighting could only be installed on to freestanding columns and not to any that are attached to buildings other than those owned by LTC. A walk round was conducted to view the columns and to gather the quantities to enable a progression with the initial concept. It was agreed that initially the scope would be for wrap round braid lighting but motif style lighting was discussed as a potential future option. Maps below indicate where the roads are located in the town for the proposed lights:



The quantities and location inventory of the proposed columns are listed below:

<p>High Street – one column light per site listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tan Tans 2. Lang Wrights 3. Admiral Tees 4. Old Blue Anchor 5. Spicy Corner 6. Martins Score 7. Adj 59A 8. Meraki Adj 147 9. Adj Post Office 10. Adj Crown House 11. Adj Bubbles 12. Adj Mariners Street 13. Adj 32 14. Adj Sgt Peppers 15. Adj 28 16. Adj 171 17. Fixed wall lights above the Town Hall main entrance. 	<p>Bevan Street East – one column light per site listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adj Bevan Street East wall sign and McDonalds 2. Rear of MyGo 3. Front of MyGo 4. Adj Thistles Gallery 5. Opposite Thistles Gallery 6. Adj Swinton Insurance 7. Adj Cash Pawnbrokers 8. Adj Tarrants Property Services 9. Adj USA Nails 10. Adj Patch
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Location of current light provision in the town:



Life Expectancy

The expected life of the original scoped braid lighting is between 5 to 7 years.

The expected life of the motifs discussed as a potential option is between 3 to 5 years.

Blachere Illumination Ltd will replace any faulty or fair wear and tear items within the warranty period.

LTC will have to replace any items that have been damaged by any acts of vandalism or if out of the warranty period.

Permissions

Upon further investigation permission will need to be sort through Suffolk County Council, note that columns to the south of the Triangle Market appear to have already been adapted. LTC would need to seek via the FCM to add to the columns a waterproof power socket to the top of the column, then run a wire down the inside to a fused feed in the cut out.

If a motif design were to be desired (which given the time restraints would need to be next year) is to have a structural survey to the base of the column as well as to the upright.

Costs

Given the initial brief 26 No. columns are proposed to be dressed with 2 No. braids on each with 1 No. Pure white braid, 1 No. Warm white braid.

16 No. columns, [see High Street visual.](#)

2 No. Branche blanc chaud anime, [see High street above Town Hall visual.](#)

10 No. columns Bevan Street East, [see Bevan Street East visuals.](#)

Year 1

- To supply and install a waterproof power socket (commando) to the top of the column, then run a wire down the inside to a fused feed in the cut out.
- To supply and install timers.
- Purchase of the braid LED lighting.
- For the installation and removal of lighting a cherry picker. This would be conducted at the same time as the current lighting provision in the town and so gains the benefit of a quantum saving.
- Switch on and test.

A qualified electrician will need to carry out the adaptions to the columns and will need to supply certification.

Cost £22,541.70

Year 2

- For the installation and removal of lighting a cherry picker. This would be conducted at the same time as the current lighting provision in the town and so gains the benefit of a quantum saving.
- Switch on and test.
- Storage charge for previous year.

Cost £4,821.70

Year 3

- For the installation and removal of lighting a cherry picker. This would be conducted at the same time as the current lighting provision in the town and so gains the benefit of a quantum saving.
- Switch on and test.
- Storage charge for previous year.

Cost £4,821.70

The 2 No. Branche blanc chaud anime above the Town Hall main doors cost £194+vat each, alternative options could be:

1. A 1.2m diameter star at a cost of £740+vat each, [see 1.2m Icy Star visual.](#)
2. A 1m diameter Sphere at a cost of £613+vat each, [see 1m Sphere visual.](#)

The motifs should they be considered for Christmas 2019 would require the columns to be structurally tested, the cost to achieve this on all 26 columns is £1500 + vat given a quantum saving. Therefore, this equates to £58 + vat per column, it is worth considering that if only a few are required then the cost would be higher than this.

A comparison on the cost to install and remove the braids against the motifs is:

- Motif £94.30
- Braid £141.50

Possible hire of products

It is advised that the braid products are more cost effective to purchase rather than hire.

The motifs depending on size would cost if purchased would be between £300 to £900+vat. To hire the same product over a 3-year period would cost between £120 to £350+vat per year per motif.

The motifs in RGB could with a designated mobile device have colours rotated day by day, week by week which is a great idea.

Product Availability

Braids are all stock items however motifs are currently on a 6-8 week lead time and consideration needs to be given to the contractor's availability and lead times of products to enable the installation to be completed in time for Christmas.

Energy Usage

The proposed lighting is all LED and therefore offers a low energy usage option, the average electricity cost is £0.125p per kw. Each braid uses 20 watts per hour and is proposed to have 2 No. per column. As they will be set by timers they will be on for 8 hours per day and the total energy consumption would only be 332kw. The overall cost of energy for all of the proposed lighting would only be £41.50 Nett.

Conclusion

To ensure that Lowestoft has an up and coming bright future it is proposed to decorate the 26 No. columns and the 2 No. fixed elements above the main entrance to the Town Hall with the braid effect items however those above the Town Hall could be altered. This is due to the extended lead times of carrying out the structural integrity tests of the columns allowing for the permissions process and the contractors availability.

Proposals are to allow additional budget to expand the lighting portfolio year on year and roll out to other wards. This could be accomplished by leasing motifs additionally year on year and moving the braids to other columns throughout the wards.

Visuals

High Street visual



High Street above Town Hall visual



Bevan Street East visuals



1.2m Icy Star option



1m Sphere option

