

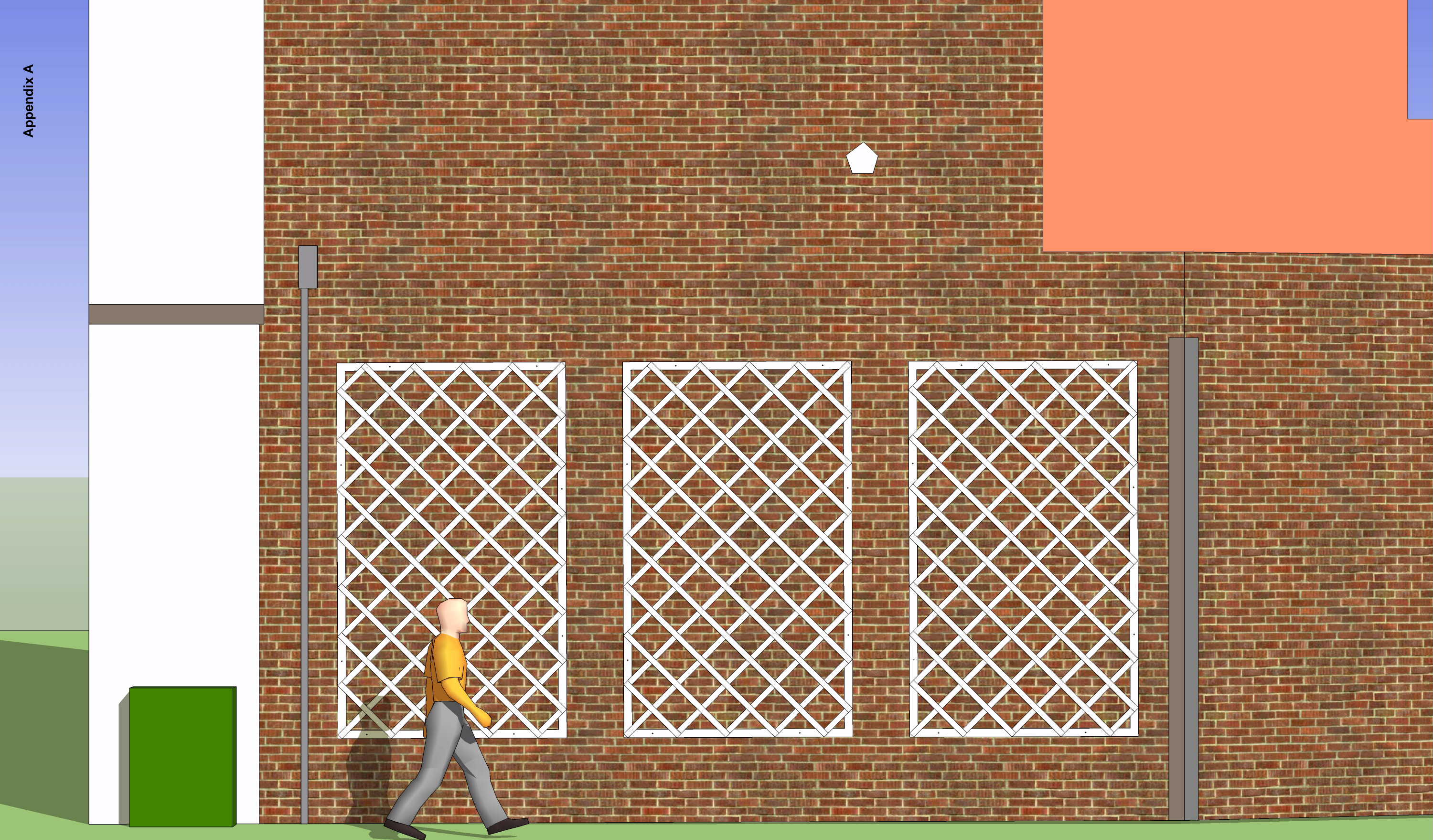
**REPORT TO PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
3RD FEBRUARY 2010****Proposed Trellis Panels – 33A Southampton Road**

1. As part of the Southampton Road Environmental Improvements Scheme, it is proposed to erect three trellis panels on the gable end wall of 33A Southampton Road (currently occupied by Iseard & Partners), with planting in a new plant bed underneath.
2. This wall has a significant impact on the visual appearance of one of the main approaches to the town. Indeed, the need to improve the visual quality and provide a more attractive elevation has been identified in the District Council's Conservation Area Appraisal for Ringwood.
3. The Deputy Town Clerk and the Principal Landscape Architect from Hampshire County Council have met the owners of the property who have approved the proposals in principle. However, they do not wish to accept any responsibility for the future maintenance of the trellis panels or planting.
4. The provision of the proposed trellis panels and associated planting will therefore be subject to securing satisfactory ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Hampshire County Council has therefore asked if the Town Council would be willing to accept this responsibility.
5. The proposals will also be subject to the removal of the recently provided estate agent signs, which have been erected without planning permission and are currently the subject of a planning enforcement case.
6. Appendix A shows an image of the proposed trellis panels (a colour copy is available to view in the office and will be displayed at the meeting). The trellis is proposed in galvanised steel, powder coated with paint of a colour to closely match the existing off white paintwork on rendering at the front and front corner of the building. The size of the panels will be approximately 1.8m wide by 3m high. Each panel will be fixed with stainless steel fixings into the brick wall and spacers will be provided to mount the panels away from the wall to allow air movement and plants to twine around the metalwork. Timber has not been specified in order to provide as robust and long lasting a feature as possible.
7. There will be a 12 months defects period, during which Hampshire County Council's contractor will be responsible for correcting any defects in workmanship which may come to light.
8. The climbing plants proposed for the trellis will be of a twining type, to avoid them clinging directly to the brickwork. *Vitis coignetia* (ornamental vine with large round leaves and good autumn colour) with perhaps winter jasmine (yellow flowers at this time of year) are suggested. An annual prune and fixing the developing framework of stems onto the face of the trellis with soft twine (to avoid main stems from growing up behind the panels) will be required. Once a main framework of the climbers is achieved, then annual pruning to keep it within bounds and encourage healthy regeneration and longevity is recommended.

9. Members should be aware that there will be costs incurred in the maintenance of the trellis, whether that work is carried out by an approved contractor or Town Council groundstaff.
10. Members are asked to consider whether the Town Council will accept responsibility for the ownership and future maintenance of the proposed trellis panels and associated planting, thereby enabling the creation of a more visually attractive elevation on this important approach to the town.

For further information, contact:

Mrs Jo Stannard
Deputy Town Clerk
01425 473883 or jo.stannard@ringwood.gov.uk



Proposed trellis panels - 33A Southampton Road, Ringwood