Landscape Character Areas:
Park Drive / Boating Lake

An important space combining the fountain and main car park area which is closely linked to the Kitchen Restaurant area. There is an important visual axis from Norton’s Gate to the north. The proposals here seek to unify the space, provide better pedestrian access throughout and significantly enhance to the setting of the fountain and lakeside area and include the following:

- Removal of existing speed bumps and associated furniture, road markings and signage
- Refurbish footpaths and carriageway using decorative finish
- Create new ‘shared surface’ raised table between the fountain and car park to encourage pedestrian priority and traffic calming
- Tighten up road junction radii, widen footpaths and improve the setting of the fountain
- Remove the existing metal posts and open up access around the fountain. This would be designed as a one-way system and provide some additional on-street parking
- Rationalise the main car park and create a more sympathetic layout than the existing orthogonal shaped extension seen on the western side
- Provide new footpaths around the car park to improve pedestrian connectivity and movement throughout this area
- Widen the lakeside promenade area
- Removal of poor quality horse chestnut trees on northern side of the road within the verge. These trees are to be replaced with new specimen trees (species to be agreed)
- Plant new trees within gaps to complete the line of trees on the northern side
- Build outs for trees to be provided with on-street parking bays in between

Conservation Management Plan Policies:
CA:PD-3 Treat the alignment and proportion of Park Drive so that it continues to provide a strong unifying element that connects various destinations.
CA:PD-4 Protect and enhance a series of designed views along Park Drive.
CA:PD-5 Restore, as far as feasible, the historic character of the Drive by ‘softening’ its appearance whilst accommodating modern vehicular use and ensuring the safety of all users.
CA:PD-6 Enhance pedestrian circulation and visitor enjoyment by seeking to provide pedestrian priority areas in key spaces along the Drive.
CA:PD-7 Improve accessibility for all as far as feasible within the constraints of the historic landscape and topography.
CA:PD-8 Ensure the long term retention of the Avenue through a programme of replacement planting and appropriate species selection.
CA:BL-2 Improve access to the edge of the boating lake by widening the promenade and improving links to the wider path network.
CA:BL-3 Enhance views of the of the northern lake edge by improving the character of car parking on the former landing stages.