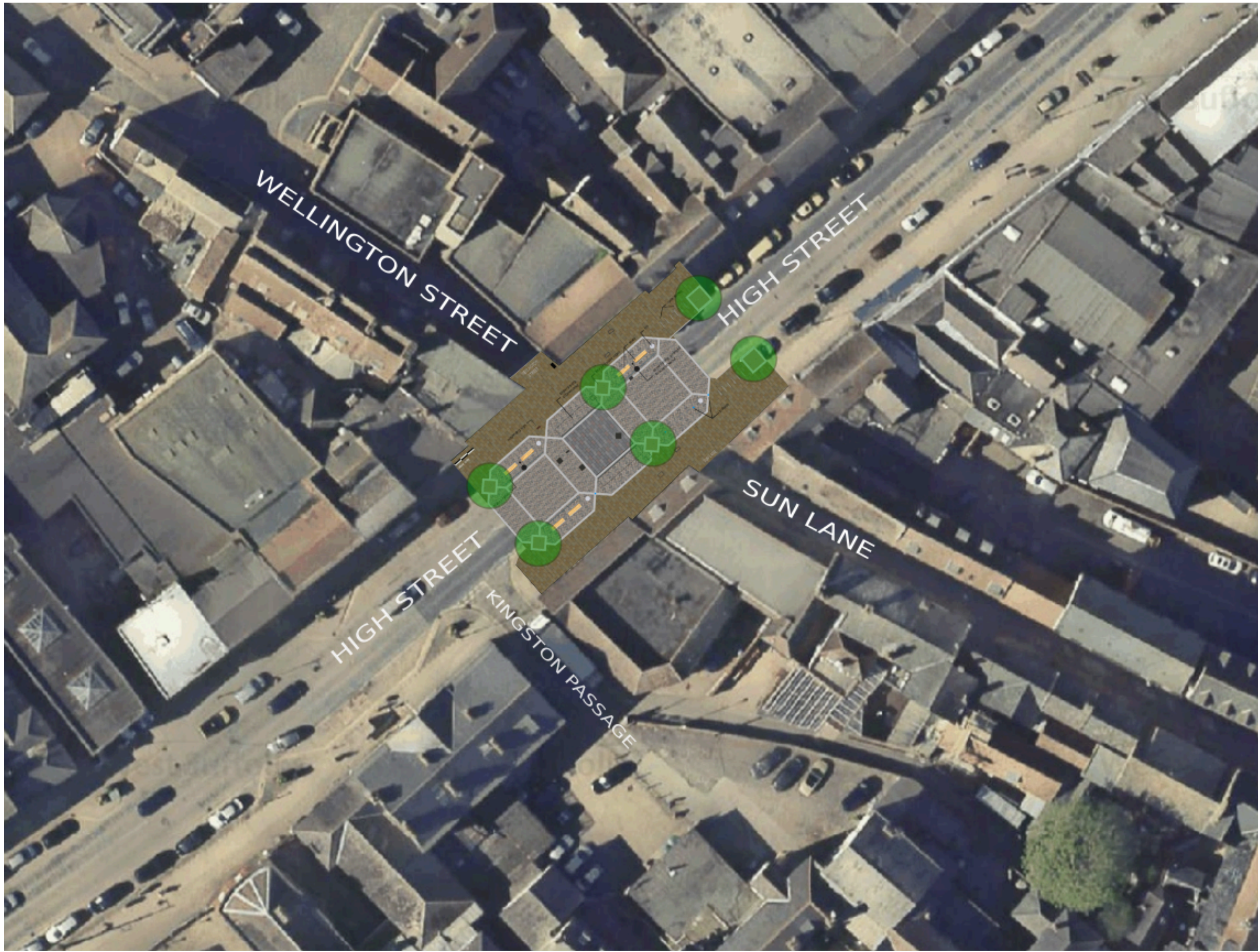


6 KEY AREA: SUN LANE – WELLINGTON ST.

The identified key area could be implemented as a 'stand-alone' project that may become an early phase of a wider scheme.





KEY AREA: SUN LANE-WELLINGTON STREET

PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT

The junction of Sun Lane / Wellington Street with the High Street has been identified as a 'Key Area': a significant part of the 'public realm' and capable of improvement as a separate phase of works. It is an historic crossing point and it continues to be a pedestrian 'node' with a high level of movement across the A1304. There is no survey data available but at busy times there would appear to be a relatively continuous movement of pedestrians along Wellington Street in particular but also significant movement along Sun Lane. It was observed that most pedestrians seem not to cross the road at this point but turn right or left to continue on the same side of the High Street however many do cross and the existing signalised crossing point is well used.

CONTROLLED CROSSING

The design allows for the retention of pedestrian controlled lights at this crossing point. However Manual for Streets advises that uncontrolled crossings can be beneficial in terms of traffic movement and pollution. This would also be an option with this design and it would have other benefits in terms of placemaking. At present this Key Area has a cluttered environment and consideration could be given to omitting lights, as illustrated, for an experimental period to allow assessment of this option. Design features, such as changes in paving materials, would be used to indicate pedestrian priority. This option would enhance the appearance of the High Street while reinforcing the message to drivers that the retail centre of Newmarket is a very different environment to other sections of the A1304 with the aim of encouraging a change in behaviour and slower speeds. Experiments in removing lights have been successful elsewhere however no two situations are identical. Uncontrolled crossings work best where traffic flows and traffic speeds are low but the most appropriate conditions are not well understood and groups representing the visually impaired in particular have expressed significant concerns.



Existing clutter at Sun Lane / Wellington Street. The 'corduroy' paving in the foreground is intended to assist those with a visual impairment but they would also have to navigate the clutter. All of these items could be removed. The CCTV (large column in the middle) could be fixed to the corner of the adjacent building (resulting in a better field of view). Traffic lights may not be necessary and a reduced signboard could be integrated with other signs.

The lights could be removed for an experimental period however the necessary cables and controls should be in place to allow prompt reinstatement of signals if deemed more appropriate.





SUN LANE-WELLINGTON STREET
Proposed Layout Plan

