

## **Chorlton Street Art Project– call for expressions of interest in painting a mural**

### **Background**

There is widespread interest in improving the appearance of the public realm in Chorlton, M21. The recent Chorlton Vision has pulled together repeated reports recommending public realm improvements and they can be found at <https://chorltonvision.co.uk/background>. Chorlton Traders, in collaboration with Chorlton Voice (the Civic Society) and MCC neighbourhood officers, and with the support of Councillors in Chorlton and Chorlton Park Wards, have begun a Chorlton Street Arts project. This follows the highly successful painting of the mural on the Chorlton Metrolink and other murals that have been painted in the District. Extending the street art project is hugely important for residents in Chorlton, particularly in the light of recent upheavals and reduction in footfall due to the construction of the cycleway and the forthcoming redevelopment of the precinct.

### **Aim of the project**

The initial stage of the Chorlton Street Art project is to paint some of the street cabinets/ junction/exchange boxes that are in the street and attract unsightly tagging. They are the ones owned by phone companies in the main.

The aim is to create some street art, encouraging visitors to view Chorlton as a great destination and improving the area for residents. We are keen that the character of Chorlton is captured in all of the art, so are **seeking proposals to paint boxes reflecting one of the following themes:**

- 1. Nature: flowers, birds, wildlife; landscape scenes**
- 2. Motivational images that inspire community and wellbeing**
- 3. Well known Chorlton characters such as those from Cosgrove Hall studios**

*It is expected that any permissions for the use of images will have been obtained prior to commencement.*

The steering group has agreed the following :

- The cabinet/junction box paintings will contribute to the vibrant identity of Chorlton as an artistic, creative, green, and vibrant place; lifting people's spirits; and strengthening a sense of community.
- In commissioning the work we will ensure, whilst respecting the artist's freedom of expression, that the street art works are striking pieces of artwork that will positively celebrate pride of place.

- The strategic positioning of the initial cabinet/junction box murals will make a vital first impression of Chorlton to visitors who have travelled to the district centre, helping to define it as a destination to visit not just to pass through.
- The junction box murals will greatly enhance the attractiveness district centre
- Each junction box mural should reflect one of the following themes :
  1. Nature: flowers, birds, wildlife; landscape scenes
  2. Motivational images that inspire community and wellbeing
  3. Well known Chorlton characters such as those from Cosgrove Hall studios

### **This call**

The call is for expressions of interest in creating murals on prominently placed street cabinets/junction boxes in Chorlton district centre, many of which are currently heavily tagged.

**Interested artists living or working in the South Manchester area are invited to complete a proposal as per the requirements below.**

All proposals will be considered by the Steering Group who will then allocate junction boxes, based on the proposals submitted so as to create a good spread of images. At this stage we will discuss details about the images you have in mind and timescale.

If we need further information from you, we will contact you. If you would like any further information please contact [chair@chorltonvoice.org](mailto:chair@chorltonvoice.org) Please note that holidays mean I will be unable to answer your queries until the beginning of October.

**Budget: We have a budget of £350 per box**

**Deadline for Proposals: October 14<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Please [download and complete the proposal form](#) to apply.

**Chorlton Street Art: Junction box mural proposal: Please return completed proposal to Carolyn Kagan, Chair of Chorlton Voice [cmkagan@gmail.com](mailto:cmkagan@gmail.com) by October 14th 2023** (Form will expand when you write)

Artist name and address:
Contact email and telephone number:
We are not looking for detailed proposals but would like to know what you would like to paint on the junction box. Please describe:
Are permissions required to use the image(s) you have in mind? Yes/No If Yes, has permission been obtained? Yes/No
Please tell us how many boxes you would like to paint (they are different sizes and we are planning to paint 9 initially and are budgeting £350 per box inclusive of materials ) and the materials you would use (indicate if they are vandal proof) Please note: we are still in the process of gaining permissions and will be unable to paint all 9 from the start. We cannot guarantee you will get the number you request. Number: Materials:
Please provide examples of three previous murals in public spaces – please upload images:
Please indicate your willingness to work with the steering group: Yes /No  Please let us know if you have public liability insurance: Yes/No
Any further comments:
Signature and Date: