

ACCESS AUDIT REVIEW

Bank Gardens

Date: 11/02/2020

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Parking and entrance

There is enough space available for 3 or 4 cars in a disabled section at the entrance to Bank Gardens. These are free for blue badge holders. If these spaces are full there are also 2 disabled spaces outside the library just under 300ft away.

There are also steps up to the gardens from near the library and steps from St Laurence Church at the top of the will.

The entrance and the majority of the gardens are on a slight uphill gradient. The pathway is uneven in places and may cause a trip hazard or difficulty for a wheelchair user.

Access around Bank Gardens

There are benches all around Bank Gardens which make for perfect resting spots for people with mobility issues. There is also a picnic bench with half of the seat on either side removed, this is perfect for wheelchair users to be able to make full use of the bench and sit next to friends or family. This was a particularly impressive aspect of Bank Gardens.

On the right of this section there are 2 benches. These are both on a heightened slab of concrete. This may cause a trip hazard for people using the benches or don't realise or forget that they are slightly higher than ground level.

This area is quite near the entrance, however, to return to the entrance via a pathway you have to go back on yourself.

There is a section that is clearly used as a pathway and the grass is damaged, however this would be unsafe for a wheelchair user.

The second area of the gardens is slightly steeper and may cause a bit of difficulty for a manual chair. There is a section of pathway that takes you to the far side of the gardens which is covered in moss and would be difficult to identify for somebody with a visual impairment.

There is an elevated area with benches on that has steps on the near side and a ramp on the far side. It is quite a steep ramp to this area and would be difficult for a manual wheelchair, however it is fine for an electric chair.

There are no disabled toilets in the gardens, the nearest disabled toilet is at the library.