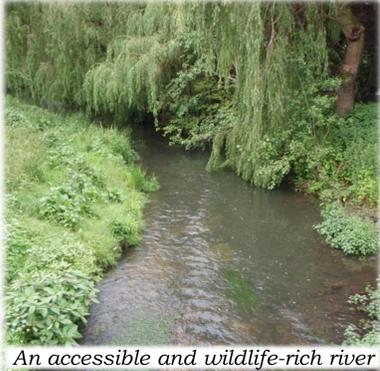




Accessible and protected heritage



Attractive, wildlife friendly planting



An accessible and wildlife-rich river



Repurposed buildings



A space for young people



Riverside path to the countryside



Events space

Castle Park

Situated 150m from the proposed ORL site



Heritage

The remnants of Waytemore Castle will be better protected, meaning people will be able to safely climb the mound. Education will be at the centre of the project, with a scheme of interpretation bringing to life the history of the park.

A redesigned landscape will celebrate and give greater prominence to the heritage of the park, including the castle mound, the River Stort, the war memorials and the Victorian drinking fountain.

Wildlife

The River Stort will be brought to life, with a reduction in tree cover and softening of the banks increasing habitat diversity and encouraging wildlife in the heart of Bishop's Stortford. New wildflower planting surrounding the castle mound will not only provide stunning displays but will also be hugely beneficial for wildlife.

Activities

Castle Park will be a hub for events, with a new open space to the south of Waytemore Castle becoming an ideal space for activities.

The community building will be entirely repurposed to provide better spaces in a more attractive building that is more connected with the park. This will include provision of a new café and toilets, including a Changing Places facility.

At the north of Sworder's Field the skate area will be completely redesigned to create a social space that older children can have ownership of, with new facilities including parkour and gym bars.

Landscape

The landscape has been designed to create more focussed zones. These new spaces will allow visitors to better enjoy the heritage and recreation that the park offers. A major aspect of this involves the relocation of the tennis courts from in between the castle and war memorials, to form part of a recreational corridor connecting Sworder's Field with Grange Paddocks.

An improved entrance beside the repurposed buildings will provide a clear route into the park from the town centre and from the proposed Old River Lane development. Within the park, a new network of paths will better connect the currently disjointed spaces. This will include a new riverside path that will form part of an off-road transport corridor running through Bishop's Stortford.

