

# THORNTON HEATH

# SHINE



Vân Dang 18th January 2019



# I am home

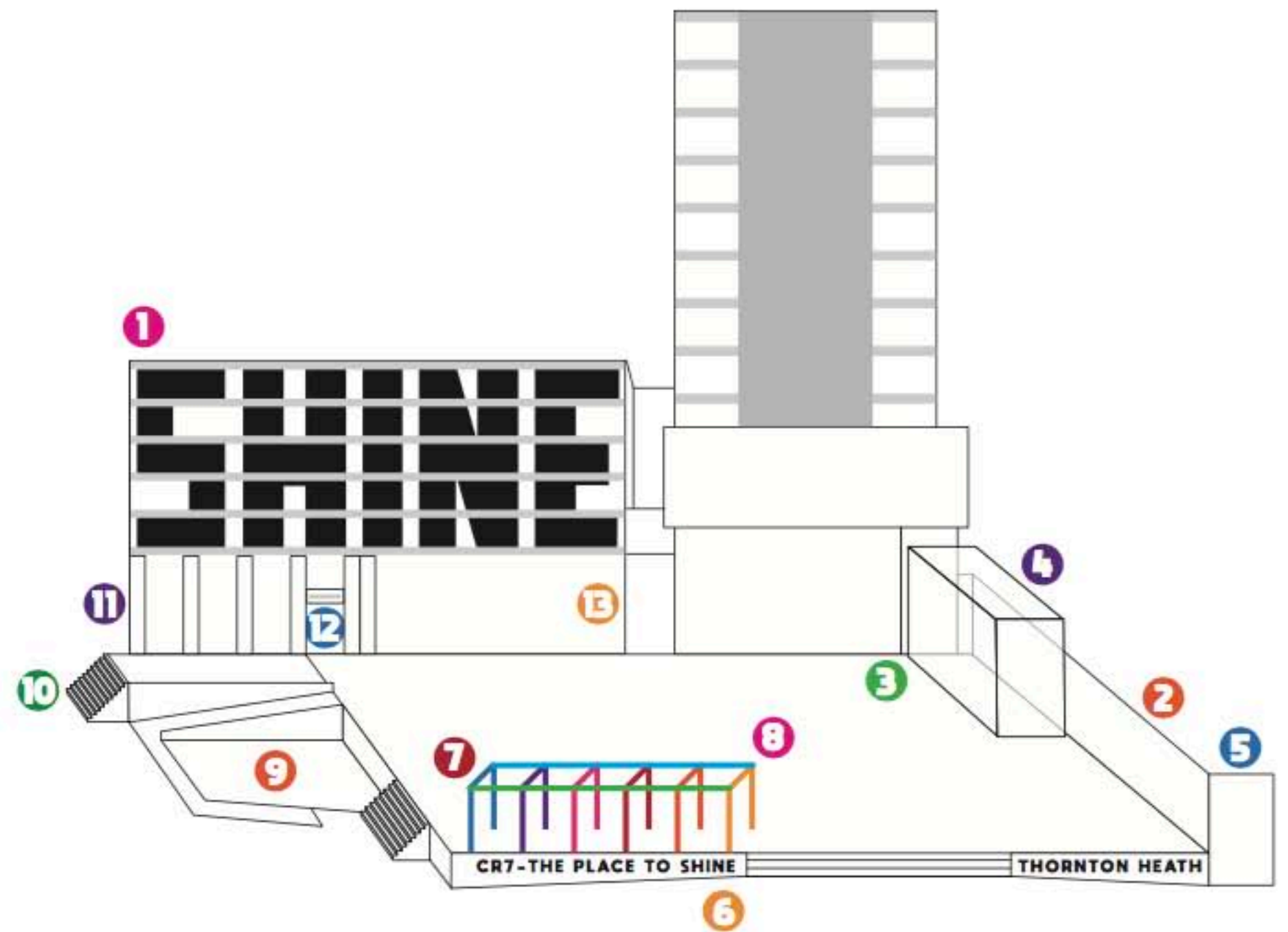
I am in Thornton Heath.

I have been living in Thornton Heath for 6 years with my husband and my son. The area is rough and has a bad reputation but I believe it is the people who can make the difference.

Despite all the negative comments and daily frustration of flytipping, rubbish scattering, illegal car parking, road race... (the list can go on), I have met many wonderful people in Thornton Heath. People who wouldn't given up and will stand and take action for what they believe - People who inspire me.

Ambassador House plays a very important part in setting the image of Thornton Heath as it is the first thing people see when they get out of the station. In my opinion, the best plan for Ambassador House would be putting it to use. Either as an office block or apartments to help solve the housing crisis we have in London. That would be a long term objective but for a short term solution, I would like to submit my bid in improving the forecourt of Ambassador House.

I hope I will be given the chance to work on the project and improve the place where we live.



1. The theme: SHINE
2. Performing stage
3. Story of Wynter the White Squirrel (book & mural)
4. Storage container
5. What's on board
6. The welcome mural
7. The market / event frame
8. The floor activities
9. People of Thornton Heath square
10. Musical steps
11. The Nature columns
12. Parthenon's shop front
13. Light, water & CCTV



# Shine

"CR7 it is your time to shine, because I'm straight out of Croydon."

London Hughes in a short rap written and performed on ITV2s Don't Hate the Playaz, October 2018.

## ▼ Reason

Ambassador House forecourt doesn't get much sun so it is dark, cold and wind swept most of the time. When there is darkness, the light shines and when there is cold, this will warm you.

## ▼ Ideas

Shine is the theme of the square where there is a stage where CR7 artists, musicians, singers and performers show their talent.

Shine is meeting point where people hang out and wait for the train, the bus, to meet their friends and loved one.

The designs, stories and activities around the square are focused on [#PeopleOfThorntonHeath](#) with the vibrancy of colour / culture, upbeat noise / music, rich history and present.

## ▼ Execution

The window / glass sticker is a low cost solution and can add colour and vibrancy to the empty building.

If there is no access granted to the building for execution, the same concept can still be done by projector light effect. This however only works after dark so is not applicable during summer months and would require a projector set up and maintenance from Kettering Court (4 Brigstock Road, CR7 8SR, opposite Ambassador House).





② Performing stage

③ Story of Wynter the White Squirrel

④ Storage container





# 2 Performing stage

## ▼ Ideas

The high street is dying as online shopping offers more choices, more convenience and better prices. What people seek for in the modern day is entertainment and also a place to express themselves. I think the idea of an artisan market is nice but it would be better having a place offering nice, hot food. Where there is nice music, a place to sit and hang out with my friends.

Think Thornton Heath Light Festival 2018: nice event with food, music and safe atmosphere - It is what Thornton Heath needs. The performing stage will be a focal point for activities on the square.





# Have you seen Walter?

## Story of Wynter the White Squirrel

### ▼ Inspiration

In October 2018 I ran a consultation workshop for the mural at Ghanapathy Temple where more than 20 children came and helped me with ideas, colouring the artwork and painted the wall on action day. It brought inspiration and I would like to create a comic book with characters based on them. They are young, enthusiastic and they are the next generation of Thornton Heath who will breath new life into the area. In years to come, the book would be a nice milestone for those little campaigners.

### ▼ Ideas

Believe it or not there are about 50 white squirrels in the world. And believe it or not, rumour said there are two in Grangewood Park. The story of Wynter the White Squirrel is based in Thornton Heath and involves all the landmarks, shops, activities and people of Thornton Heath.

Wynter the White Squirrel travelled to look for another white squirrel. She worked her way around Thornton Heath and finally got to the SHINE performing stage at Ambassador House. There she found a secret door which brings her back to Grangewood Park and met Walter there.

### ▼ "Have you seen Walter" - the book

The book would be based on a storyline and the children of Thornton Heath will have a chance to come to a workshop to set the details and draw their own character. They can even choose the name for the character.

Initially the book will be handed out to local children who helped painting the murals, local primary schools and the library.

Also available online at [www.GrangewoodPark.co.uk](http://www.GrangewoodPark.co.uk)

### ▼ "Have you seen Walter" - the mural

The magic portal / door where Wynter found her way back home is on the mural at the corner of Coral and the storage container. People can take pictures with the door, find more info about the stories and links to other areas of Thornton Heath here.





# 4. Storage container

Meet Walter and Wynter  
the REAL White Squirrels  
at Grangewood Park

Full story:  
[www.GrangewoodPark.co.uk](http://www.GrangewoodPark.co.uk)

## ▼ Ideas

The square only has a few single seats (fixed to the ground). All other seating will be made of reclaimed pallet wood and painted in bright colours. On market and event days, the seats are brought out but normally they are stored in the metal container H2.6 x W2.5 x L6.1m

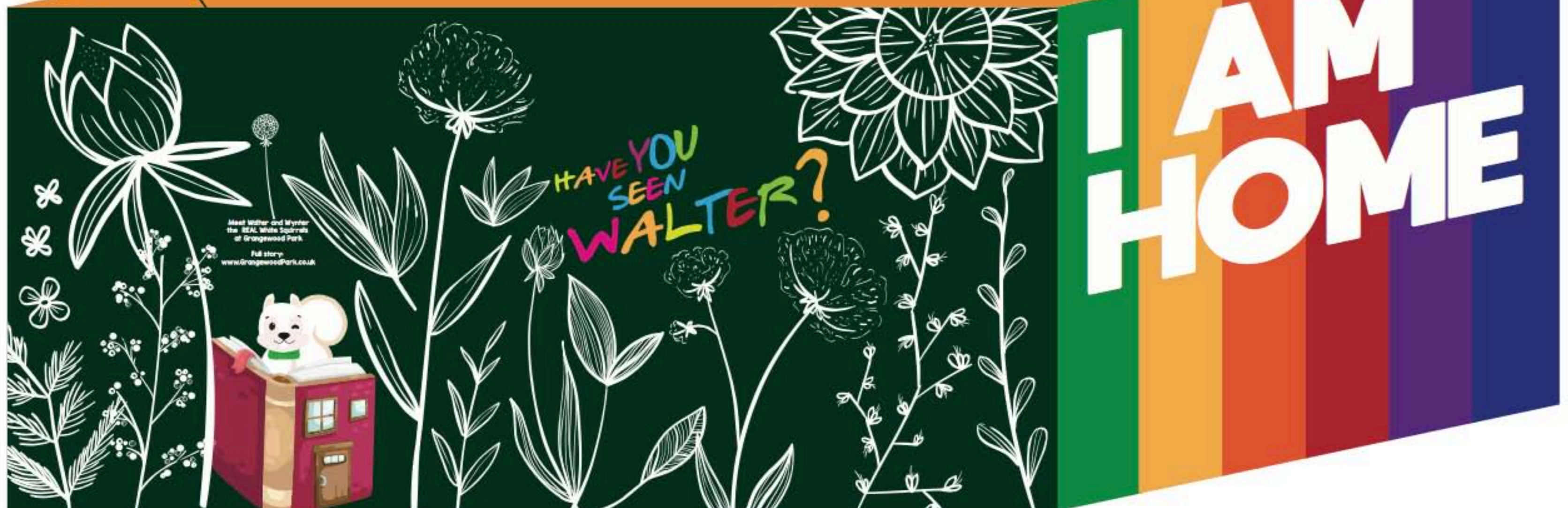
## ▼ Execution

There is access to electric sockets inside the box for the performing stage and / or market stalls.



What's in the box?

Furniture for market and event days





# 5 What's on notice board

## ▼ Ideas

Events and activities on the forecourt need to be widely publicised so a notice board is essential.

## ▼ Execution

The wall is W1.4 x H2m on the side of the forecourt and right at street level.

The design will be permanently painted and has anti-graffiti paint protection, except the time and date on the back background which can be hand drawn by chalk or chalk paint and easily wipe off and re-write again.





# 6 The Welcome mural



## ▼ Ideas

This is the first sign of Thornton Heath when people get out of the station so the walls show a simple but welcoming message, following the theme of the square: Shine.

## ▼ Execution

Bright and colourful background with white text: strong and easy to read.



# 7 The frame for market stalls and events

## ▼ Ideas

In December 2017 and January 2018 I was in the team organising CR7 Market. Ambassador House was the main site where the stalls were placed. It was cold, grey and extremely windy. We were aware of the problem and chose strong and heavy stalls but they were still nearly blown away. Therefore I suggest metal frames that will be fixed to the existing railing and on the ground.

Each market stall frame is 2.2m wide. On market day, the tarpauline will be easily hung on the frame and easy to take down then fold for storage as well.

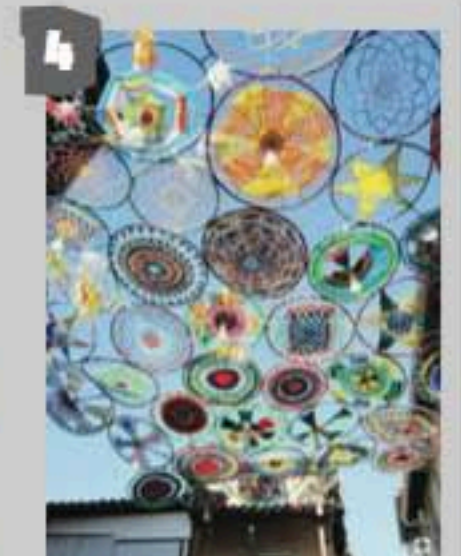
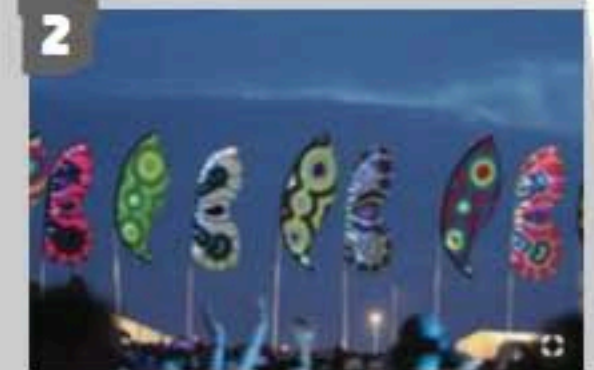
To minimise the wind affect and stop the tarpauline working as a sail, the front of the stall frame will be 2.8m high and the back is 2.5m high for the wind to flow. When there is wind, there is chance for flags and windchimes. The flag and giant windchime can be hung at events (1-4 weeks max). Other art and craft, handmade creations from many community groups in Thornton Heath can be hung and displayed here as well.

When there is darkness, there is a chance to shine. Fairy light (mixture of battery and solar powered) can be hung here during winter months as well.

## ▼ Execution

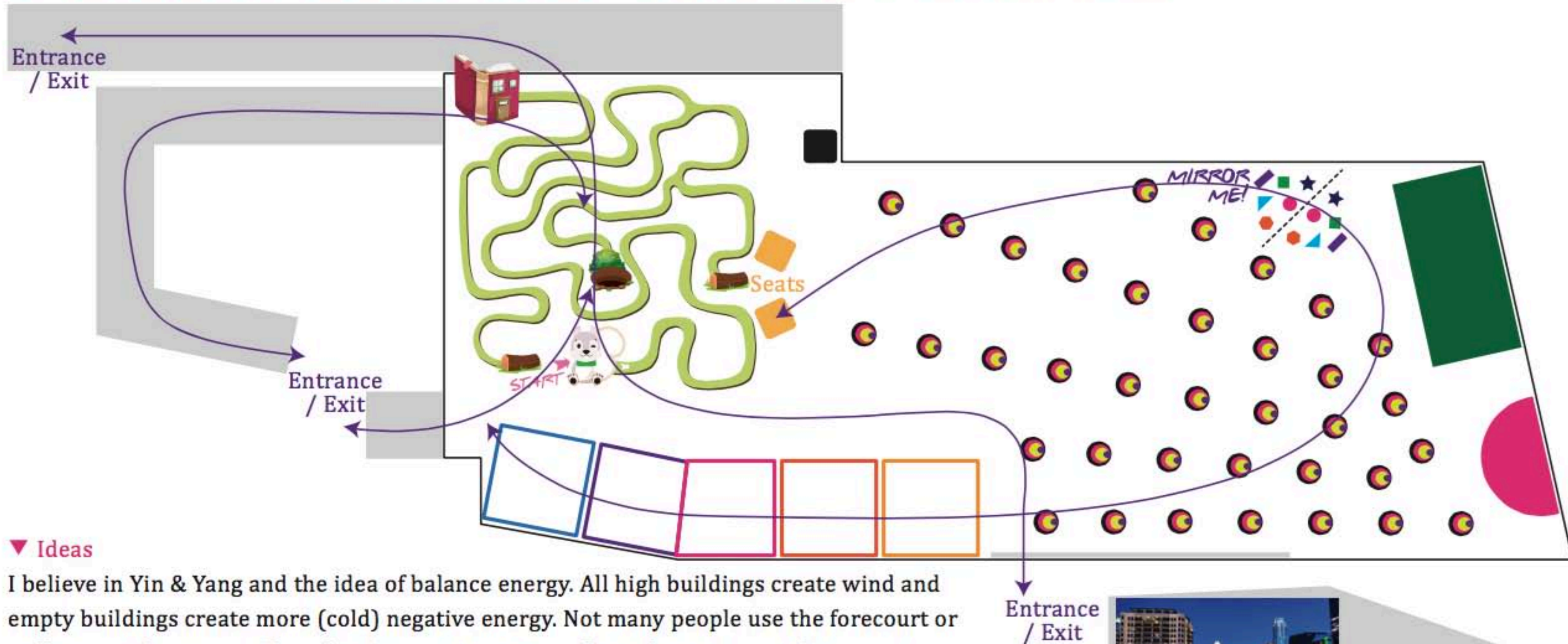
Depends on budget, we can have the straigh frame or curve and bend as leaves and flower (see reference image 1).

The frames will be painted in vibrant colours. If budget permit, florescent paint or light up paint can be used.





# 8 The floor activities



## ▼ Ideas

I believe in Yin & Yang and the idea of balance energy. All high buildings create wind and empty buildings create more (cold) negative energy. Not many people use the forecourt or walk across the square. Therefore I suggest creating a flow of activities on the square to encourage people to bring (warmth) positive energy to the place.

The flow starts from the entrances and creates a movement across and around the forecourt. It focuses on the 2 single seats. When people sit there it attracts other sources of energy.

## ▼ Execution

These are examples and the actual games and activities can be changed during public consultations and budget.

Entrance / Exit





# People of Thornton Heath square



Current square

## ▼ Ideas

Following the ideas to bring more energy flow to the square, this small concrete area (currently having planters from THCAT) should be opened up and have seats to create a nice sitting area for people waiting for the bus.

The little square is called **#PEOPLEOFTHORNTONHEATH** with positive messages from people who were born, worked or related to the area.

The key is to encourage people that they can be the next one showcased on this wall as well.

## ▼ Execution:

The artwork show 6 portraits but it can be up to 8-10 people.

We can run a voting system so local people can choose their Thornton Heath idols.

Open the rail and let people walk in





# 10 Musical steps

## ▼ Ideas

Put a spring in my step.

These Musical steps hopefully will make people walk on them more and use the side walk to get up the square from the old Barclay bank

## ▼ Execution

They are painted on the side but the top are black tiles to replace the current brown and mostly broken tiles.





# 11 The Nature columns

## ▼ Ideas

I love the idea of bring more plants to the forecourt. However plants only work in the summer and they are very hard to maintain in pots. Unless they are planted on the ground, plants require a lot of watering and need an irrigation system.

If planting is an expensive option, we can bring plants to the forecourt by painting. Fake / plastic would fade and won't last as long as a mural. Painting is not the best but it is the second best option - maintenance wise.

## ▼ Execution

Artwork on the 5 columns are for reference only. At the moment it is extracted from the design on the storage container but it can be any green tropical pattern.

The top part of the columns can be covered in large sheet of metal to create reflection of light and light up the square.





# Parthenon's shopfront

## ▼ Ideas

<https://www.thorntonheathchronicle.co.uk/sophies-story-the-trader-battling-to-reach-half-a-century/>

The Papanicolaous have been running this fashion store for more than 50 years at Ambassador House and they have seen the highs and lows of the square. I think it shows we care for local business and history of the area to offer them a make-over for their shop front.

## ▼ Execution

This design is only for reference purpose and is subjected to Sophie Papanicolaou's decision.





# Light, water & CCTV

## ▼ Ideas

Access to electricity is through the Storage container by the Performing stage.

Water tap available by the market frame but will be inside a locked box.

If there are any planters (budget permitted), an irrigation system can be installed.

There are fairy lights on the market stall's frame and warm coloured floor lights spread out in a fan shape from the performing stage.

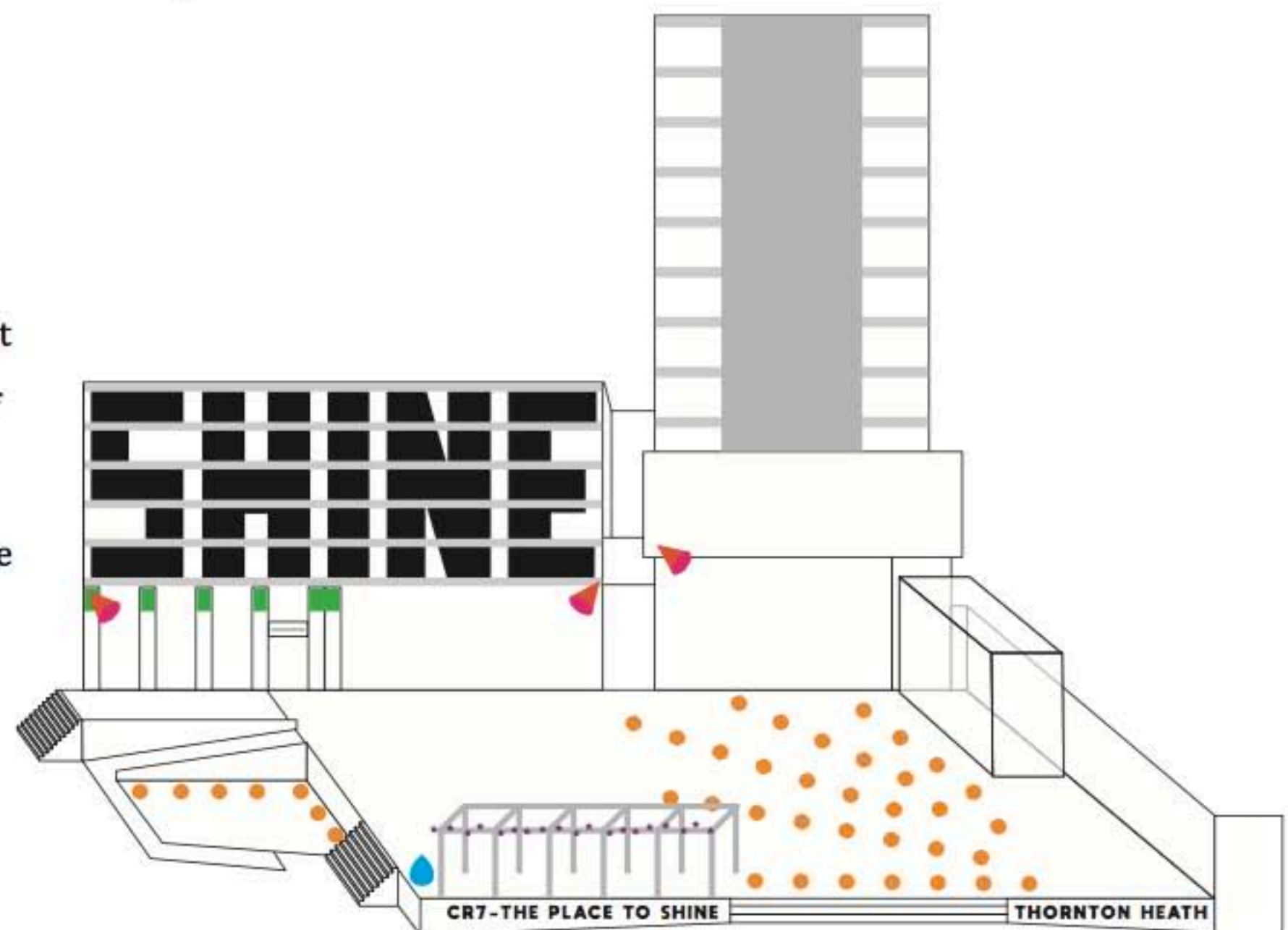
💧 Water tap box

★ Fairy light

● Floor lights

■ Metal sheet cover on the columns to reflect lights. If budget permitted more can be installed to reflect light to dark corners of the building and walk ways.

▶ CCTV with clear warning signage to protect storage and the murals.





**Thank you!**



# About the designer

I live in Thornton Heath and am a member of Thornton Heath Community Action Team. In 2017, early 2018 I was part of the team organising CR7 Market by Ambassador House. We raised more than £1800 for the first ice-rink in Thornton Heath. I have been to many rubbish pickings and action days on the high street and at Ambassador House so I understand what it is like around here.

My proposal is written and designed from a view of a resident who understands the area and wants to see it thrive. The ideas come from all the activities I am involved in with the local people and community groups.

In October 2018 I had a chance to design and paint the mural by the Ghanapathy Temple (see photo). As a designer, I have a track record of project management skills. I understand the process of public consultation and most of all I understand Thornton Heath and Thornton Heath residents. I believe with all the projects I have taken part in, I have a strong network of people that will support my work.

Please take a look at my work for Thornton Heath:

[www.freeart.org.uk](http://www.freeart.org.uk)

[www.thorntonheathchronicle.co.uk](http://www.thorntonheathchronicle.co.uk)

[www.thorntonheath.net](http://www.thorntonheath.net)

[www.grangewoodpark.co.uk](http://www.grangewoodpark.co.uk)

I run a design service and my portfolio is here: [www.studiotiger.co.uk](http://www.studiotiger.co.uk)

I believe that my portfolio and involvement in the community show I have the ability and motivation to take part in this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

*Vân Dang*







220x60cm

160x60cm



6 banners: 220x60cm

5 banners: 200x60cm

Banners at the side of AH: 220x60cm

160x60cm



Banners at the left of AH's courtyard:

6 banners: 220x60cm



Banners at the right of AH's courtyard:

5 banners: 200x60cm





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