



# PARKLET GUIDE

CATALOGUE - 2024





# ABOUT US

**Meristem Design is an award winning design company creating bespoke green solutions for commercial, public realm and residential spaces.**

Meristem offers a comprehensive service of design, installation and maintenance to cater for any green infrastructure needs. This range includes, but is not limited to permanent and temporary parklets, living walls, green screens, interior greening, green roofs and trellis systems.



Flood and Coast Excellence Awards 2023



Energy Globe Award 2022 - United Kingdom



Business Elite Awards 2022



Pro Landscaper's 30 under 30 2021



# OUR MISSION

Our mission is to bring more green into your world, whether at home, in the office or on your commute, we are committed to turning the grey green.

We are therefore, part of a movement to make cities healthier and happier places to live, and hope to become part of a wider societal trend towards embracing plants to live a more fulfilled life.



Susdrain SuDS Awards 2022



ATCM - Town and City Management Industry Awards 2022



West London Business Awards 2020



International Healthy Streets Awards 2019

# PARKLETS

A parklet is essentially an extended platform which transforms a car parking space into a public space with seating and planting.

They incorporate elements such as seating, tables, planters with planting and greenery, green roof, pergola, bike parking or lighting that reflect the unique character and needs of the location.

Parklets are typically characterised by their adjacency to the pavement and they can range in size and character.

“ ***By not requiring a permanent concrete base, Parklets are a much faster and less expensive way for the City to bring improvements to a neighbourhood.*** ”

Parklets can serve as an important focal point when transforming streets from car dominated environments to community hubs.

They are classed as temporary measures as they can be moved very easily. Most parklets have a decked area, which takes into account the camber of the road and level with the kerb so as to avoid a trip hazard.





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# COMMUNITY PARKLET

Parklets create vibrant spaces for the local community. Many residents in urban areas lack an outdoor space or a garden. These Parklets provide them with the opportunity to meet, socialise with their neighbours and enjoy nature surrounded by greenery.





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# Hammersmith & Fulham Parklets

We installed 5 Parklets on Hammersmith Groove as part of a larger initiative to encourage green spaces, cleaner air, and promote cycling. The idea is to convert a dominated grey parking area into a more attractive place for local residents and workers to enjoy a more pleasant environment.



All of our Parklets are DDA compliant.



# Kingsmead Square, Bath

Improvements to Kingsmead Square, Bath, were delivered by Bath & North East Somerset Council and Meristem Design to reclaim road space to create an attractive public realm which supports pedestrians, cyclists and café culture, whilst improving air quality.





# Milsom Street, Bath

These parklets extend the central dwell space along the street to create an attractive, green, public space for visitors and shoppers.

## What did our client think?

"The parklets and cycle racks are of great quality and have been well received in the city, by the public, businesses and politicians alike."



# Brent Parklets





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# Enfield Solar Panel Parklet

We designed and built a solar-powered Parklet where the users are able to charge up devices such as mobile phones, tablets and PC's. The solar power can also be used to light up the Parklet.

We also installed tall café-style tables and stools on one section of the Parklet, as well as bike parking facilities. The roof section includes a green roof to absorb rainwater and allows excess water to feed the planters below.







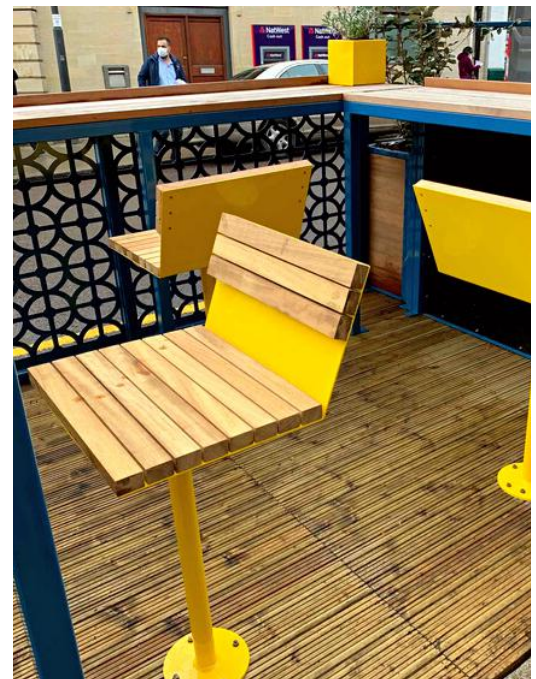
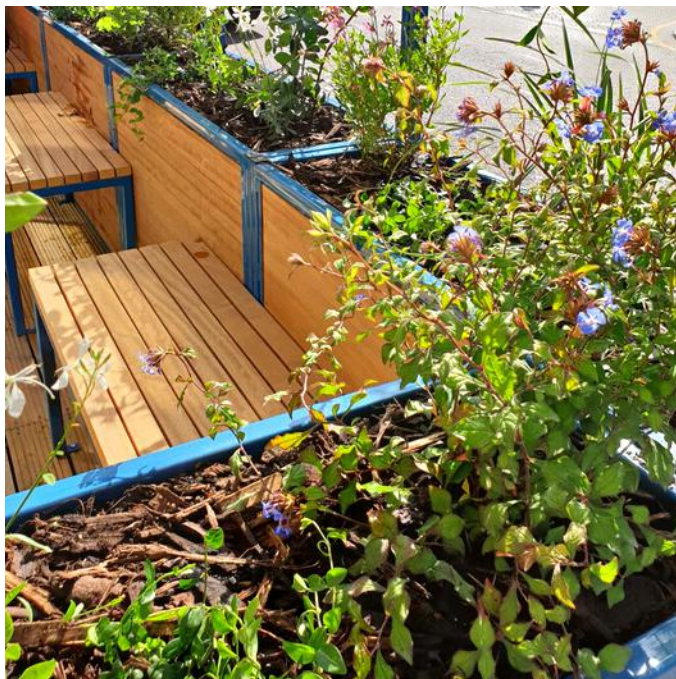
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# Redbridge Mobility Hub

We're delighted that our Parklets in Redbridge have been awarded the UK's 1st Accredited Mobility Hub. The Redbridge hub is the first in the UK to meet the standards set by national shared transport charity Collaborative Mobility UK (CoMoUK).

While there is no 'one size fits all' approach, the hub concept brings together public transport with shared transport options, such as bike share schemes and car clubs, together with walking and cycling provision and urban realm improvement.



# Epping Forest





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# Dudley Parklets



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# HOSPITALITY PARKLET

These Parklets allow hospitality to provide additional outdoor space to increase the number of customers they can cater for.

Businesses can use their own furniture and they can utilise that space as they want. To give protection from pollution and noise, green screens can be integrated.



Monmouth Coffee







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# Bold Street, Liverpool

The Liverpool Parklets incorporate safe space using perspex screens to zone off groups of customers from each other.

The Perspex also creates a wind barrier and many of our Parklets are being used with parasols to protect against the elements.



# Penarth, Vale Of Glamorgan

The Vale of Glamorgan Parklets feature a green roof covering the decked seating area below. The Parklets also incorporate toughened glass sections all round to provide some wind and rain protection.

Lighting is provided inside the Parklets using overhead power cables from the adjoining buildings. This will allow the business to provide evening entertainment to their customers in an attractive outdoor space.





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Charlotte Street, London

# Camden Streateries



# School Parklet

These Parklets provide attractive greenery and flowers for the street as well as a bench to allow passers-by to pause and enjoy the surroundings.

They can include innovations in terms of educational games integrated with them like a blackboard with interesting facts, magnetic games, graphics and chalkboards.

Parklets can be used as modal planters to slow down the busy traffic and create greener and safer environments around schools for the benefit of children and parents.







Jacques Prévert French School

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Drury Lane, London

# St Clement Danes Church of England Primary School



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**MERISTEM**  
DESIGN

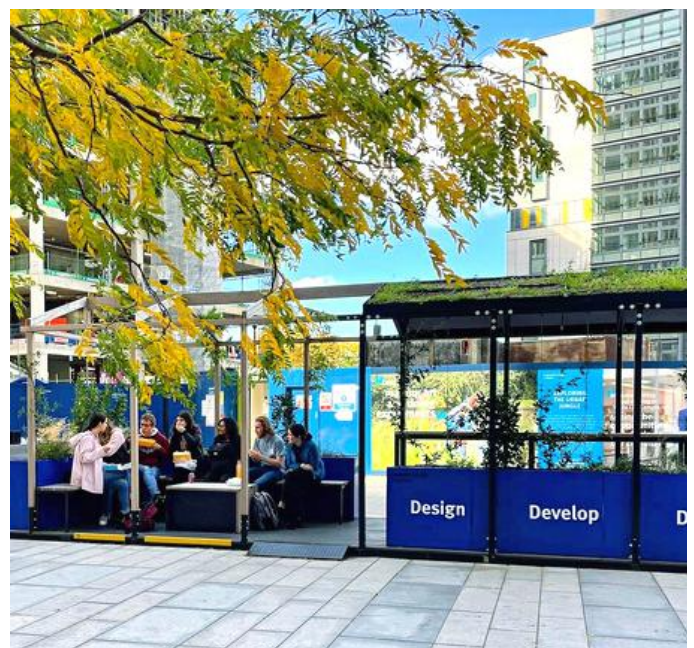
Imperial College London



# Study Hubs

These Parklets allow students to work, socialise with each other and hold meetings surrounded by greenery.

- Solar Technology: students are able to charge up their devices such as mobile phones, tablets and PC's
- Green Roof absorbs rainwater and allows excess water to feed the planters below.
- Can be used for university branding.



# Bike Parklets

These Bike Parklets bring cycle parking and some nature to the busy streets. Cities around the world are replacing car parking spaces with attractive street furniture to promote cycling and sustainable travel.

The Parklet can combine bike corrals and planters - it can be arranged in any layout and customised for a particular site.

We are able to quote for Parklets to your particular specification, colour scheme and style in keeping with the local area.





Cargo bike & Cycle Parklet - Hackney

## Parklets could be the salvation of declining high-streets.

There is a rising trend for on-street Parklets popping up across the world, in the US there are over 3,000 of them, with Canada and Australia not far behind. In the UK their adoption has been painfully slow until recently, however in the past year over 50 on-street Parklets have been installed in London alone with 100's more in the pipeline.

A Parklet is typically an extended platform over a parking space or pavement extension covering measuring one or two car parking bays. A Parklet generally combines elements such as, but not limited to benches, tables, chairs, landscaping, bike parking or lighting that reflect the unique character and needs of the location.

Parklets are an efficient way to provide an instant Pocket Park and are classed as temporary measures as they can be moved very easily. Most Parklets have a decked area which takes into account the camber of the road and level with the kerb so as to avoid a trip hazard.

Many customers of bars and coffee shops enjoy the alfresco experience, unfortunately most of the pavement are very narrow and so extending the seating onto the carriageway seems perfectly sensible.

The word about Parklets needs to be spread through, marketing, council websites and through associations such as the National Licensing Association, which is connected to pubs, restaurants and clubs throughout London. A tool kit or Parklet manual, such as the figure below will provide information on the application process, fees, responsibilities, design guidelines, and technical requirements, making it easier for clients to understand the full system. Additionally, a portal with location requests would be beneficial, so people, businesses and local authority are able to recommend a location that needs a Parklet. Lastly, clear engagement needs to take place through something like a Twitter Parklet page which could contain feedback on the Parklets installed.

### What is involved in getting a Parklet onto the street?

#### 1. Pre - Application



- Review the guidelines
- Engage the community
- Contact the city
- Engage a designer
- Secure funding

#### 2. Initial Application

- Provide applicant information
- Write a narrative
- Create site plans
- Capture photographs



#### 3. Local Authorities Review

- Visit Site
- Perform construction & Location check
- Perform Site A assessment
- Identify neighboring businesses



#### 5. Detailed Proposal

- Provide a timeline
- Engage a contractor
- Produce detailed drawings & renderings



#### 4. Engage Community

- Install public notice Sign
- Gather & review public feedback
- Hold community engagement events





### What innovations are possible on Parklets?

Parklets can be designed to have charging points and Wifi incorporated into them, this makes sponsoring the Parklet more attractive as users register to use the Wifi.

### Do they attract anti social behavior?

You would expect them to but they tend to be relatively trouble free, the trick is to find a good location and involve the local business. Install notices about litter and smoking and to have bins located next to the Parklets.

### Who maintains them?

A comprehensive maintenance package is available from the suppliers to keep the plants healthy. This includes; removal of dead leaves, any debris, plant feed, pruning and plant replacements (due to natural failures or anti-social behavior).

### Do they need Planning?

No not if they are on the carriageway, a traffic management order and change of use is required.

### Who pays for them?

Presently, most funding is coming from public sources. In London the funding is from the Mayor's office and complements the 'Liveable neighbourhoods' program and around trying to approve the air quality. Parklets are typically sponsored by private partners but are free and open for any member of the public.

However, private sector funding is being made available from corporate sponsorship which can pay for building the Parklet as well as the ongoing maintenance.

## 6. Prepare site for construction

- Complete pre-construction risk assessments
- Produce & Implement traffic Plan (if required)
- Pay any fees
- Provide copy of insurance



## 7. Parklet Construction

- Remove parking meters
- Install Self leveling sub-frame, decking, planters and benches, bicycle storage and any other features in the design
- Plant up foliage
- Install public Parklet Signage



## 8. Launch Event

- Publically declare the Parklet open
- Capture feedback
- Spread awareness
- Engage the local community.



## 9. Ongoing Maintenance

- Appoint a contractor to take on the maintenance of the project.
- Engage the community or a local business to help with maintenance



Meristem Design's Parklet on Rivington Street.



Meristem Design's Parklet on Calvert Avenue, Shoreditch where Paper & Cup have seen a 20-30% uplift in revenue since the installation.

# Visuals Designs

OUR DESIGN SERVICE CAN TAKE YOU FROM CONCEPT TO  
A FINISHED PROJECT.

Your project may benefit from presentational material using a range of graphic and visualisation techniques to effectively convey and communicate the merit of your proposals to planners and public alike.

**GET IN TOUCH FOR A FREE CONSULTATION!**







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