



park's space design.

Now, all of the roads in the area have been remodelled to include raised planters with trees and shrubs, plus chevron planting; there are also occasional areas of raised granite set paving to provide different textures. Footpaths have been remodelled and bollards fashioned from weathered post tops and oak ships keels rescued from London Docks are used as benches to reflect Northam's shipbuilding origins.

The new community park provides the green heart to the Home Zone and is a focus for ongoing community activity. In addition to play equipment there's an open area of grass and a paved pathway with seating, trees and shrubs - these being designed to maximise the visual and wildlife interest of the park.

"It saved me from having to move out of the area" was the verdict of one father, concerned about his young family. An independent community consultant decided that "People feel better about living in the area now and are tremendously proud of what they've helped to make".



# NORTHAM TENANTS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Southampton

Living Spaces Grant: £100,000

The core vision of the Northam Tenants & Residents Association was to provide a 'green heart' to a Home Zone in inner city Southampton. Its objectives were to create a new park with wildlife value in an area with a chronic shortage of green space, reduce the amount of traffic, reducing driving speeds and accidents, and shift the balance of control from drivers to pedestrians. It also aimed to introduce new uses and facilities to the carriageways and adjacent public spaces, improve the appearance of the area and enhance the sense of community. The intention was that it should also be an exemplar project that built the capacity in the local community.

From the outset, community agreement was going to be crucial. A community planning day was held with interactive exhibitions and workshops, whilst a planning game and posters featuring the different possible

