



New look for Canal Walk

RESIDENTS turned up to see how a new look for Swindon town centre will reflect its canal past.

The designers behind the regeneration proposal for Canal Walk say that a green look will help soften Swindon's concrete appearance.

Visitors to the project's exhibition in the Brunel Centre yesterday saw designs for a living green wall, modern sculpture, more trees and ornate grooves in the pavement.

Nick Conder, project manager at the New Swindon Company, said: "We wanted to achieve a garden feel where people can sit, chat and meet.

"We want to make Swindon people proud. It is not just a shopping location. We are trying to get people to come here, see the art and create a pleasant environment."

There are plans to shift the Jubilee Clock to the train station and replace it with art.

The Golden Lion will be moved to a different part of the street.

John Birch, 75, of Haydon Wick, said: "I think the appearance of the town centre matters a lot. It is very dreary at the moment."

Work on Canal Walk will start in July and it is expected to be completed by April next year. Exhibitions will be held at the Brunel Centre today from 10am until 1.30pm.

GREEN VIEWS Sarah Jeffrey and Nicholas Pearson at the living green wall

Picture: SIOBHAN BOYLE