



Tim Norris – DWELL Commission, Conningbrook Lakes 2018

Introduction

The Public Art Strategy for Conningbrook Lakes has been developed as a result of extensive consultation and research undertaken by Public Art Consultants FrancisKnight and Lead Artist Kerry Lemon. It provides a working document specific to Conningbrook Lakes to aid Chartway Group Ltd and Ashford Borough Council in discharging planning conditions 45 and 81.

The Strategy supports a holistic approach to commissioning high quality artwork, bringing together 300 new market homes development of contemporary design with a strategic country park. It defines four commissions that invite artists and artist collectives to shape and transform the ways people interact in, respond to and learn about Conningbrook Lakes.

View, Dwell and Explore are titles for permanent commissions while Interact focuses on a temporary public engagement programme delivered by artists specialising in outdoor education. Whether the artwork is 'stand alone' or integrated, they focus on celebrating the unique landscape and creating opportunities for people to appreciate, learn about and engage with the habitats, flora and fauna of the site and surrounding area.

Vision

Conningbrook Lakes will promote a reputation for outstanding public art that is considered, thoughtful and resonates with the lakeside location. Artists will collaborate to create new work that will delight and surprise, extending the visitor experience and contributing to a unique and attractive place to live in and visit.

Tim Norris

I am very interested in the source of my materials and the meaning or history they may contain. Our landscapes and townscapes are filled with the history of their making either geologically or in the wake of industry and occupation. What's left behind is a unique blend of nature and industry, one influencing the other. The materials and processes I use seek to continue that relationship.

My work draws its inspiration from the surrounding landscape, and where possible uses materials that have a direct significance with its location. Rather than produce purely furniture or sculpture, I am interested in creating inspirational environments that help people to relax, play and enjoy their environment. Therefore, my sculpture aims to encourage a sense of interaction: either by sitting within, clambering over, or wandering through and inside.

I like to spend time prior to any making period on site: sketching, taking photographs, researching and producing detailed plans. In my studio I often work with a team of skilled assistants. I also regularly employ local craftsmen such as stonemasons, blacksmiths and sawmills that have a connection with the area I'm working in. In this way I can tap into the vernacular and local style.

All public commissioned artwork is designed to be made from robust materials, for heavy usage and low maintenance during its life. I show some examples of my work in nature, work such as the Forest Wave Shelter which uses less durable materials. However, my technique of using a steel frame to create the organic forms means the structure is very strong and durable and can be clad with almost any material.

I wish to find materials that resonate with its location but also one that fits with the longevity requirements of the brief.



Artist Residency

During May 2018 I undertook a weeks artist residency at Conningbrook Lakes. This gave all the artists the chance to spend a period of time together and to explore the location. Initial ideas were researched and developed during this time.

Detailed Proposal for Dwell

- **Planning Condition 81**
- **Location for Commission**
- **Sculptural Bird Hide**
- **Concept Drawings**
- **Detailed Design**
- **Budget**
- **Maintenance**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Timetable**

Planning Condition 81

Condition 81:

“Within 6 months of the commencement of the development hereby permitted details of any public art to be provided within each phase (excluding residential phases which are dealt with under condition 45 and the bagging area) identified on the phased programme of works approved by the Local Planning Authority pursuant to Condition 2 on drawing 722-087 details of public art to be provided within each such phase shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in the form of a ‘Public Art Brief’ for each such phase.

Such Public Art Brief shall include:

details of the proposed public engagement with the production of any artwork to be provided within the relevant phase,

details of the location, type, form of such public art within the relevant phase,

a timetable for the manufacture and installation of the public art within the relevant phase, and;

details of the arrangements for the ongoing maintenance thereof.

The Public Art for each phase shall be implemented, retained and maintained in accordance with the approved details approved by the Local Planning Authority relating to the relevant phase unless otherwise agreed by the Local Authority in writing”.

CONNINGBROOK LAKES
BIRD HIDE ARTWORK

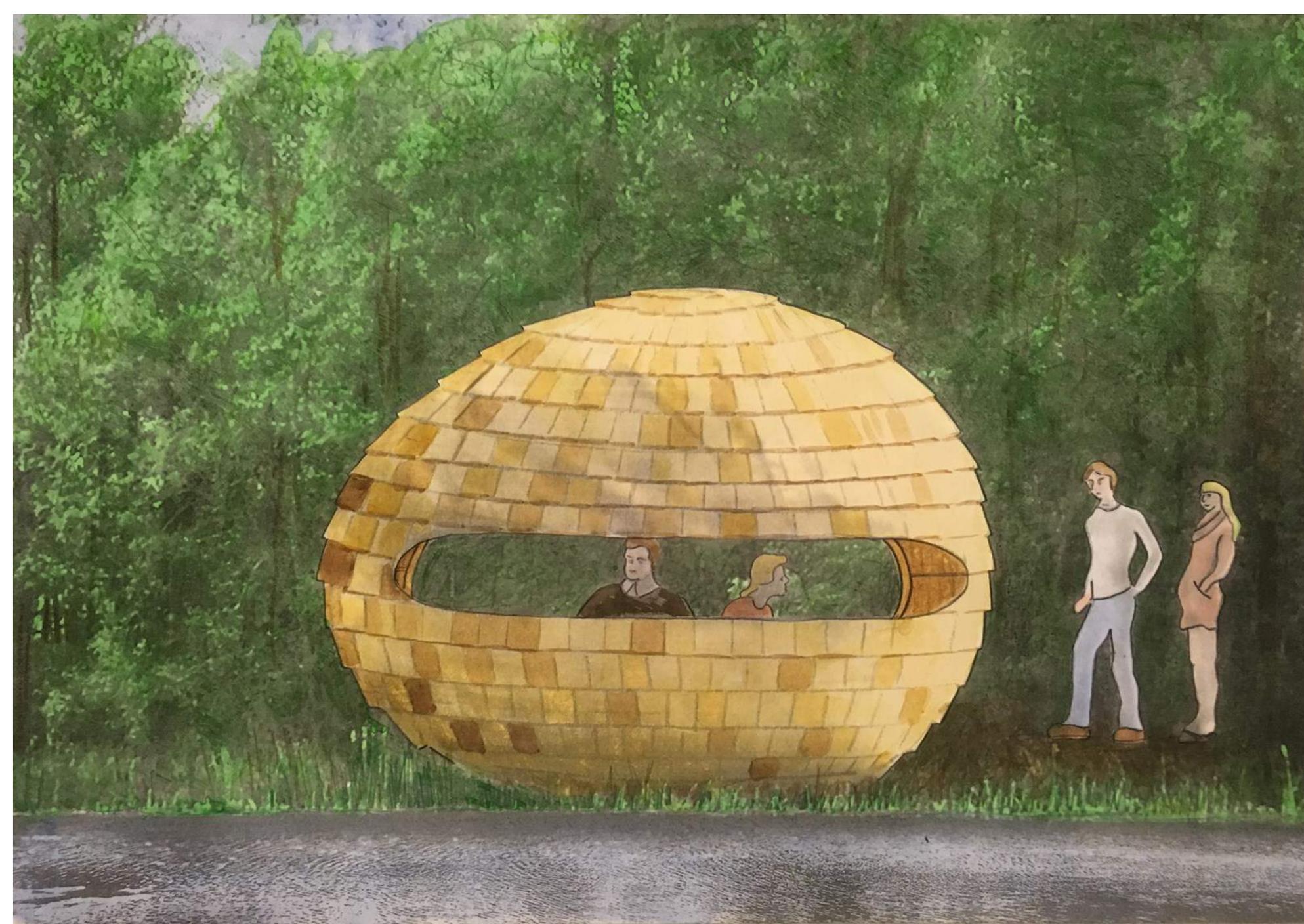
LOCATION MAP

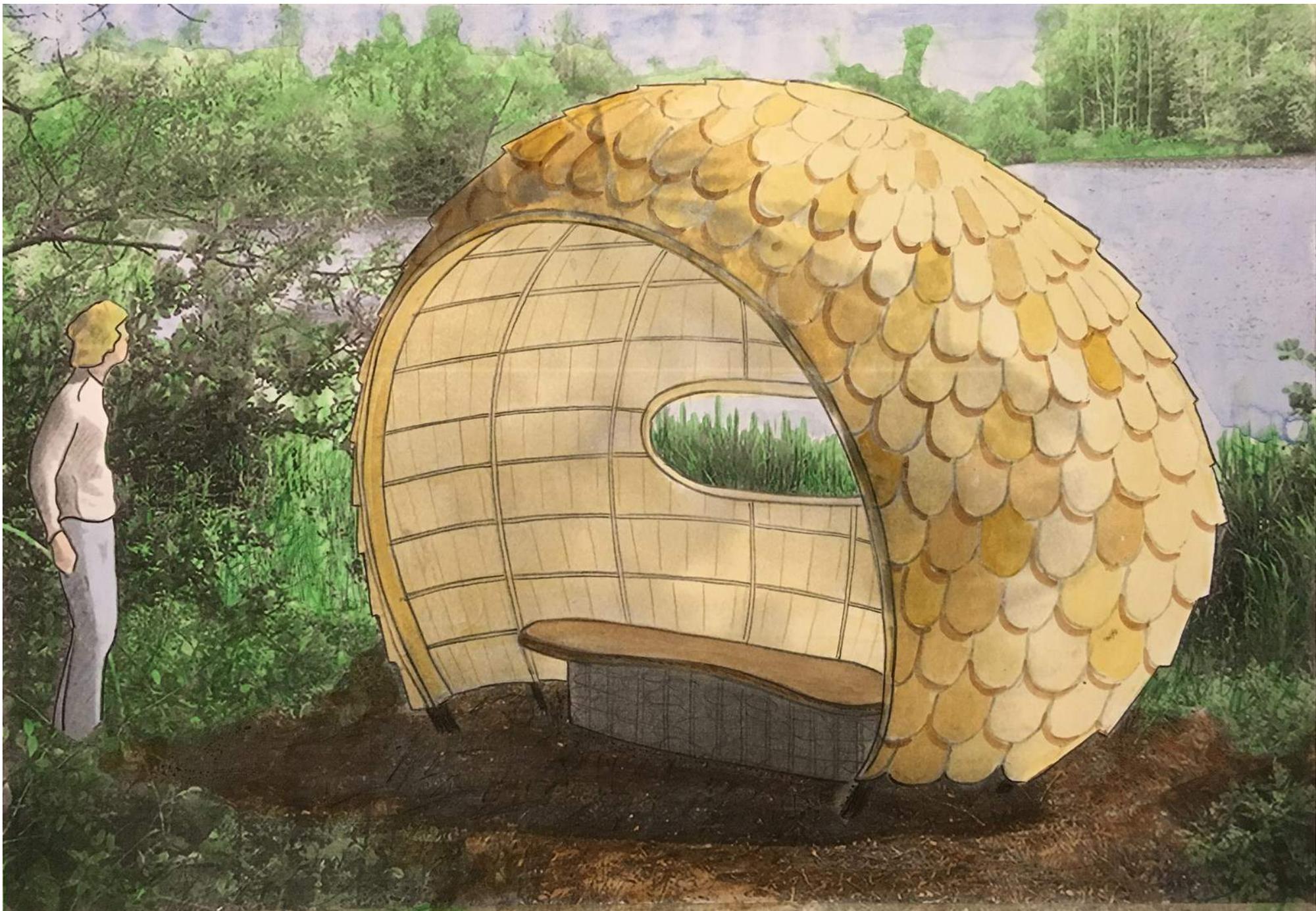


TIM NORRIS 2018

Sculptural Bird Hide

- This Sculptural Bird Hide is designed to be located on the bank of the Eco Lake, facing the nature reserve.
- The design for this seating area has been inspired by nature, egg like in form.
- The laser cut and welded steel frame is clad with cedar shingles.
- The shingle pattern has been designed to reflect the patterns found throughout nature. The hand cut cedar shingles are cut to a fish scale profile.
- The sculpture has a wide opening which will allow users to approach and see all the shelter contains, prior to entry.
- The shelter can fit groups of up to 4/5 at one time.
- A gap at the base of the structure allows the wood to dry out and high level water to enter and recede harmlessly.
- The structure is fixed down to the trench foundation with chemical fixings, which is a polyester hardening resin. This will provide a strong attachment and can be used in damp conditions.

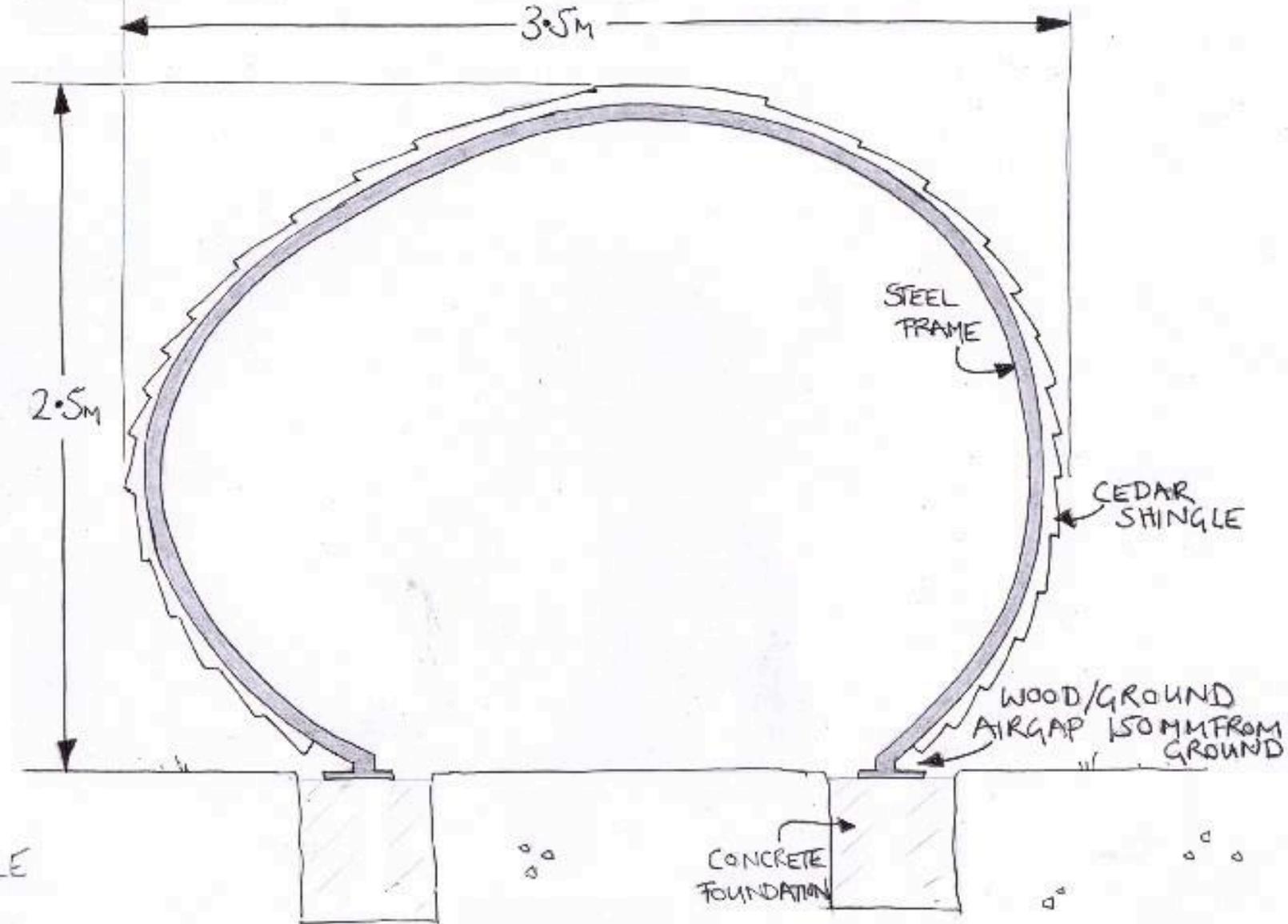




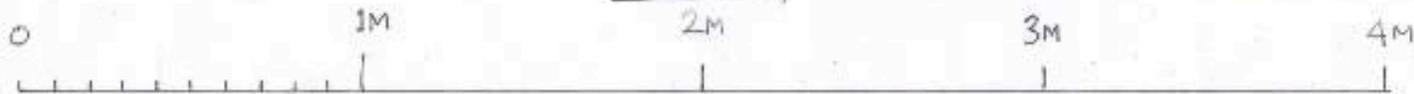


CONNING BROOK LAKES
BIRD HIDE ARTWORK

CROSS SECTION



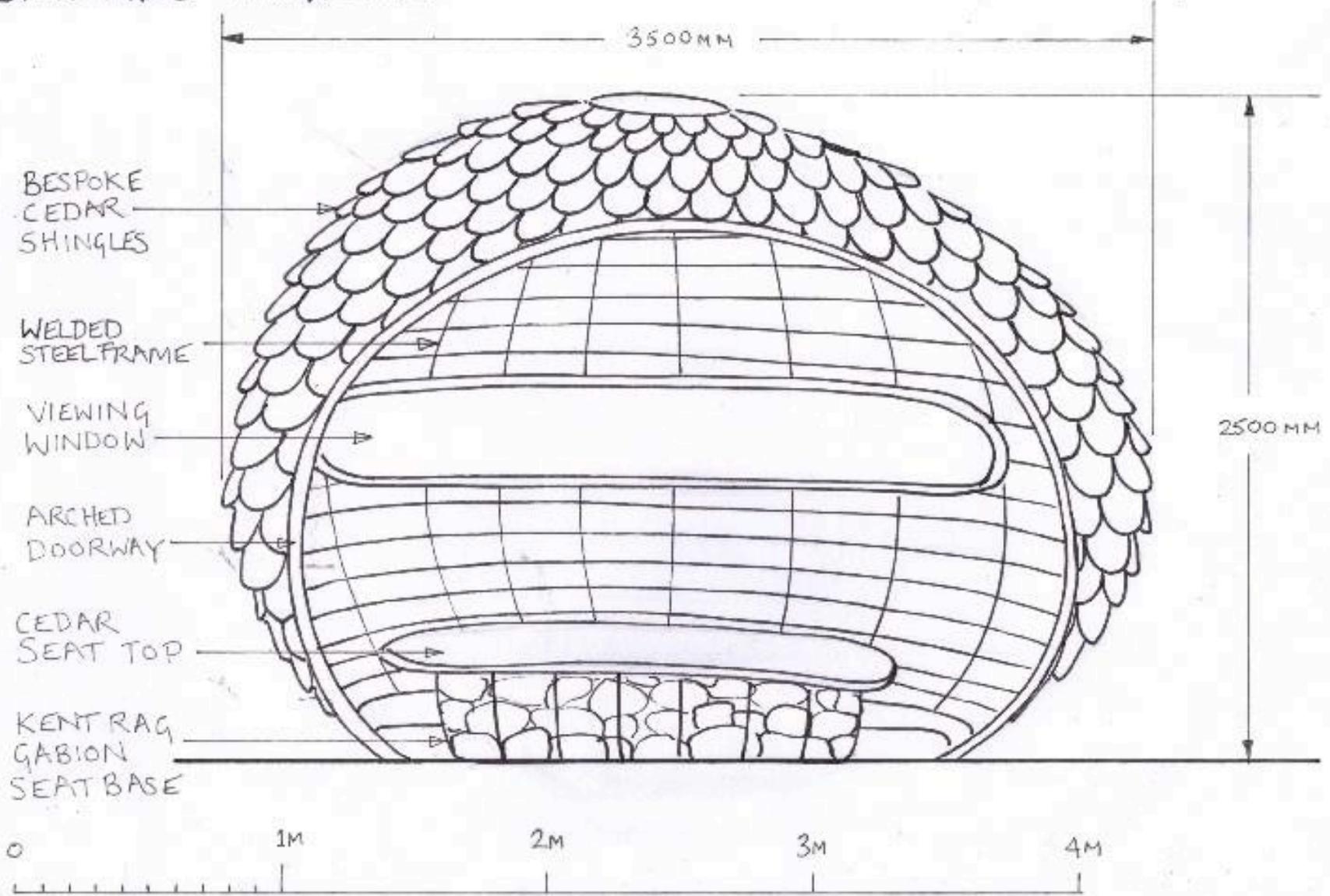
1:20 SCALE



TIM NORRIS 2018

CONNING BROOK LAKES BIRD HIDE ARTWORK

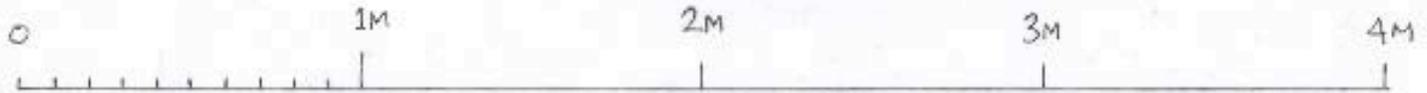
FRONT VIEW 1



- BESPOKE CEDAR SHINGLES
- WELDED STEEL FRAME
- VIEWING WINDOW
- ARCHED DOORWAY
- CEDAR SEAT TOP
- KENT RAG GABION SEAT BASE

3500MM

2500MM

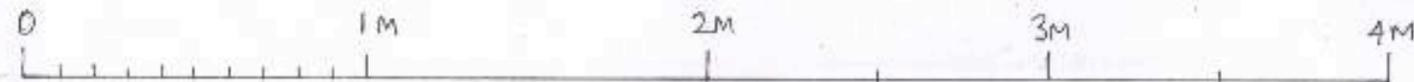
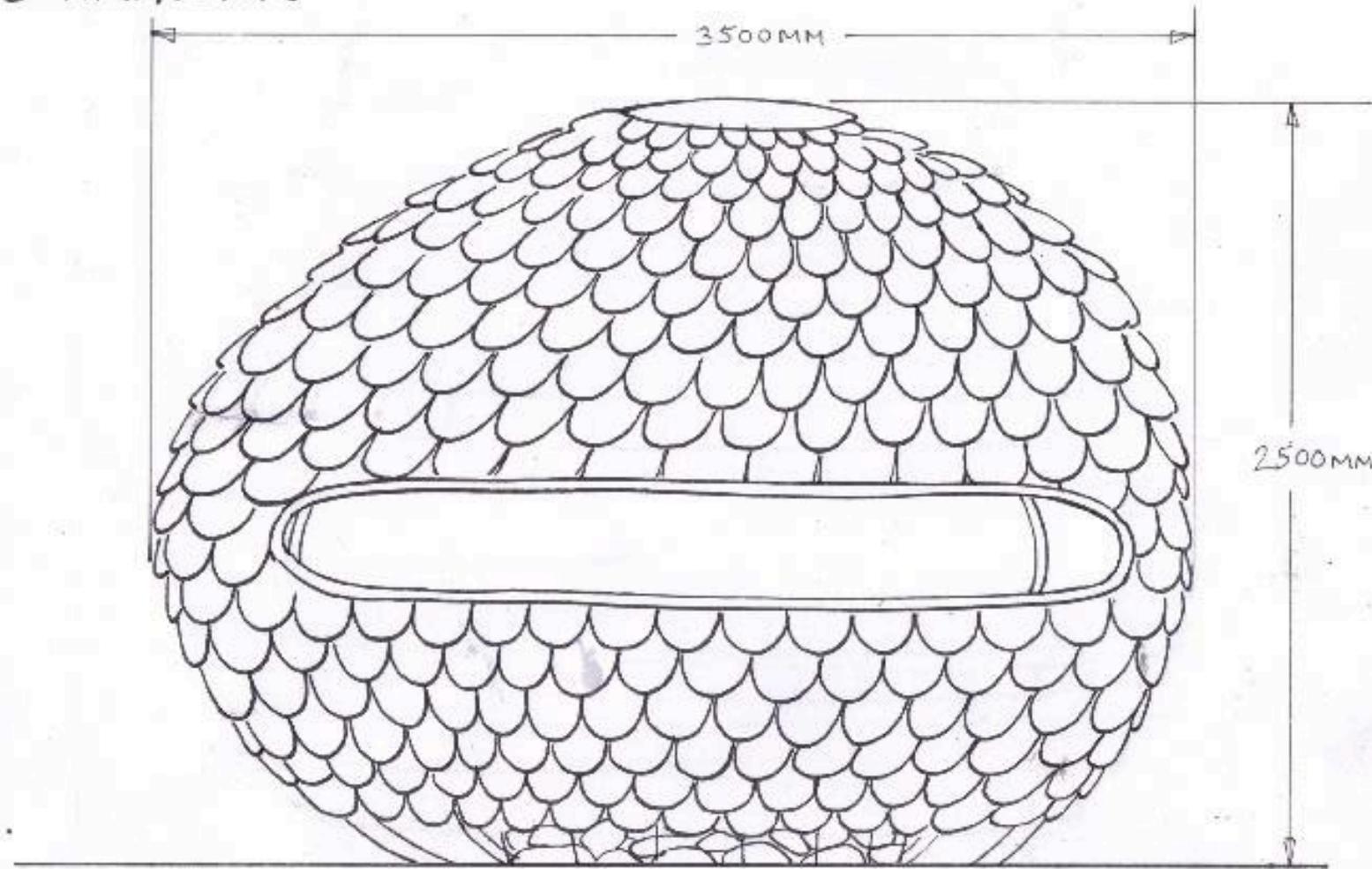


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REAR VIEW 2

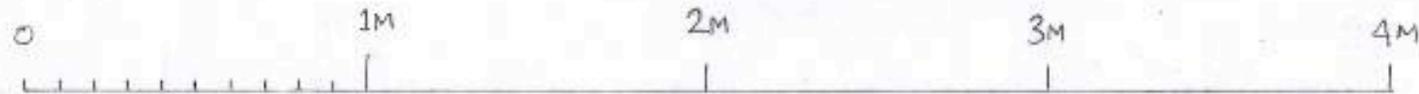
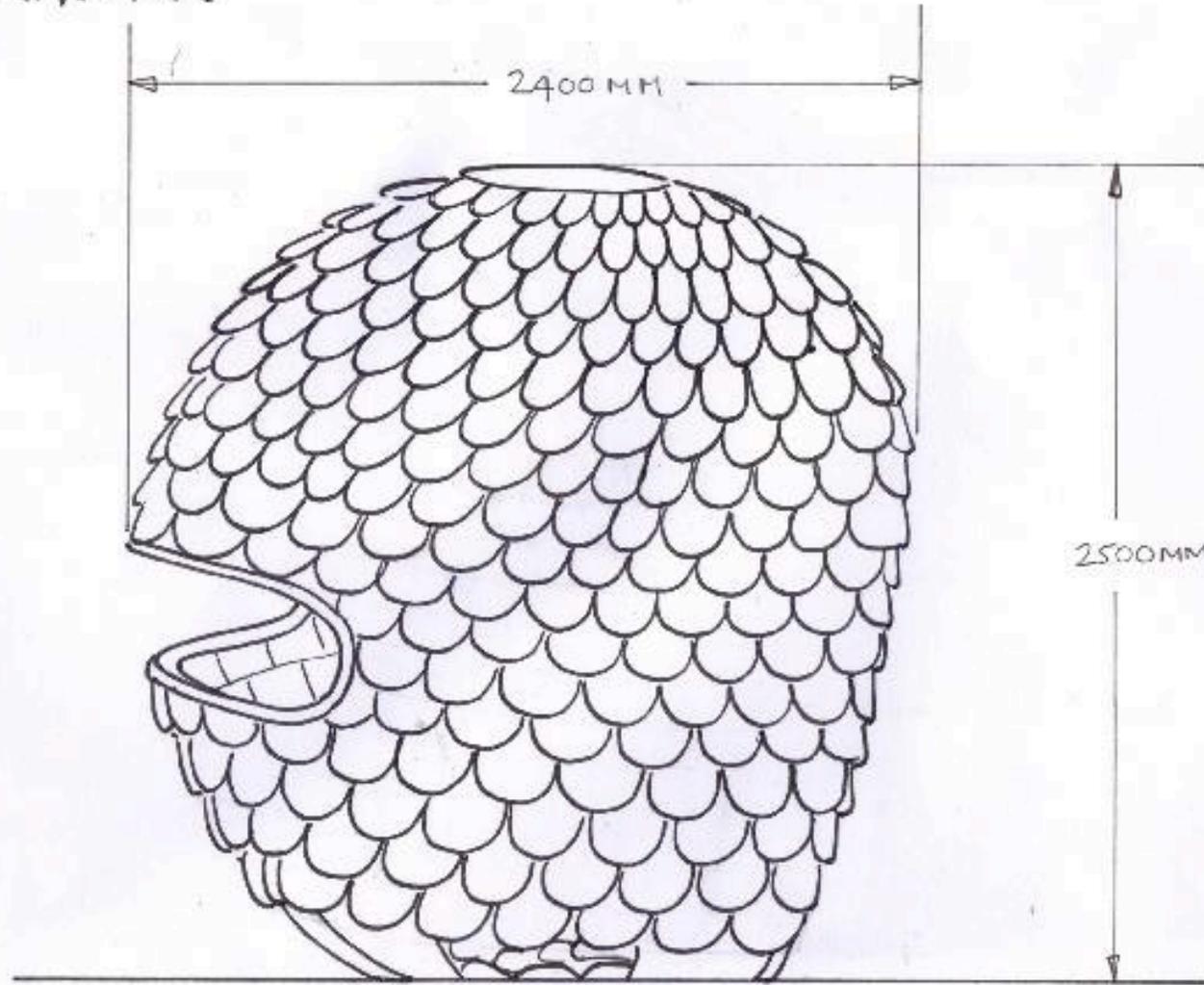


1:20 SCALE

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CONNINGBROOK LAKES
BIRD HIDE ARTWORK

SIDE VIEW 3



1:20 SCALE

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Materials	Price
Wood shingles	£2,450.00
Timber	£1,215.00
Mild Steel	£500.00
Kent Rag	£150.00
Fixings	£1168.00
Misc.	£737.00
Manufacture	
Lead Artist labour and assistant labour	£7,750.00
Sub Contracting	
Laser cut steel frame, galvanizing	£2,450.00
Transport	
Hiab deliver	£500.00
Installation	
Lead Artist labour, assistant labour & accommodation	£6,450.00
Contingency	
5%	£1,230.00
Grand Total	£24,600.00

Budget

Maintenance Advice

Materials:

- The sculpture is constructed from a mixture of air dried cedar timber & galvanized steel frame.

Construction Overview:

- The sculpture is bolted down to the concrete foundations which is directly laid onto the lake bank.
- The sculpture sits with an 100-150mm air gap to allow for a flow of fresh air to allow the timber to dry out.

Timber Maintenance:

- The timber has a variable moisture content that raises and falls throughout the seasons and can show signs of movement. This is quite normal and is to be expected and should not affect the structural strength of the seating.
- It is possible that during its lifetime a crack could develop into a splinter. I would recommend inspecting the work regularly in its first year and 6 months – annually after that.
- In order to help stabilise and protect the timber a combination of finishes provides the final coating. A Sika wood preserver to protect the timber and a replenish able wax seal to waterproof the wood and preserve the new colour. The Osmo UV Protection oil coating can be applied locally when cleaning and should be reapplied between 2 and 5 years, depending on exposure and weather conditions.

Community Engagement

A specific commission for public engagement has been developed to support the permanent artworks. The commission INTERACT provides engagement activity particularly in the quiet moments of the permanent commission programme.

Outdoor Studios is the appointed artist group who will support and collaborate with the commissioned artists for VIEW, DWELL and EXPLORE. The focus will include outdoor workshops and learning to elicit playful responses from residents, visitors and local communities to connect with their environment and each other across a range of ages and abilities.

DWELL Commission

A series of outdoor workshops will focus on Tim Norris's work, reflecting on his inspiration for DWELL, use of materials, and the notion of bird hides and shelters. Local schools will be targeted to take part as well as some more open public sessions for residents who will be occupying the new development at Conningbrook Lakes and visitors to the Country Park. Outdoor Studios will work closely with FrancisKnight to coordinate an accessible range of activity that promotes the residential development and the country park improvements.

There is also the opportunity to incorporate artwork from this activity on to the build hoardings throughout the construction phases for Conningbrook Lakes.

Timetable

Phase 2 - 2020 Conningbrook Lakes Country Park

- Community Engagement from March 2020 through to the end of the year.
- Fabrication September 2019 – February 2020.
- Ground works and installation Spring 2020.