



Repointing Flexible, Unbound Paving
- South Tower Entrance

Birchwood Business Park
Warrington, Cheshire

Case Study

Birchwood Park in Warrington is one of the largest business parks in the North west and is home to many nationally important companies. The network of interconnecting paved pathways, which link various communal areas, are predominantly paved with butt-jointed, reconstituted granite stone blocks, together with some highlight areas of natural sandstone slabs. The joints between the slabs were originally filled with dry 'jointing' sand, that regularly washed out and became invaded with unsightly weed growth, in turn leading to complaints from the tenants.

At least once a year, disruptive and expensive remedial works, including removal of weed growth, application of toxic weed killer and re-jointing with new sand were needed. A different approach was clearly required, and in 2017, trials were held, from which a durable and cost-effective solution from paving joint specialists, NCC Streetscape, was given the go-ahead by Facilities Management Contractors, J. M. & M. Scanlon.

This was to thoroughly clean the paving surfaces, and completely remove any residual sand and built-up dirt and weed growth from the joints, using high-pressure jet-washing. Joints were then permanently filled using 'Best in Class', GftK vdw 850+ Paving Joint Mortar for the majority of the areas, where joints were typically 5-8mm, and GftK vdw 815+ for the areas with joints < 5mm wide. These 2-part, all-weather epoxy based jointing mortars effectively self-compact into the joints using wet-slurry techniques, needing no additional tooling, and allowing the areas to re-open after only 24 hours.

Over the last six years, specialist paving contractors, CR Services have completed the remedial works, which cover an area of some 8,000m² of paving, and now the paving joints are fully resistant to jet-washing for easy cleaning, and will not need any further treatment for many years.



Commercial Pathways & Terraces

Client:

Warrington Borough Council

GftK Products Used:

vdw 850+, vdw815+

Paving Contractor:

CR Services

Call NCC Streetscape

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