

**Rutland Countryside Access forum** 

The Oakham Canal Green Corridor Project 10c Mill Street Oakham Rutland LE15 6EA

e: pdadford@yahoo.co.uk

t: 07870 238688

6<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Oakham Canal Green Corridor Project - Project Update

# 1. Springfield Estate

The Project continues to progress the rationalisation of ownership of the canal / adjacent footpath, and footpath repairs, with RCC and Persimmon Homes.

Environmental studies are being carried out over the winter months by Ecology Resources in order to develop a maintenance strategy for future discussion with RCC and residents.

#### 2. North of Burley Park Way

Further efforts are being made to engage the landowner with a view to acquiring permissive access rights to the informal paths (field edge and woodland).

#### 3. E154 South

The Project is working with Oakham Angling Society to look at replacing the bridge over the dam to provide a wider, safer, link from the E154 to the permissive footpaths on the western banks. Proposals will be discussed with RCC.

Fencing has been replaced at Burley Road.

## 4. E154 North

Temporary steps have been constructed to provide safer access to the E154 footpath and the construction of the original stone steps has been examined. Having discussed potential options with RCC, and in the interests of public safety, it has been agreed to formalise the temporary steps and close off the stone steps for the foreseeable future.

The footpath has been widened throughout by vegetation management.

The Project is considering options for the replacement of the sleepers forming the 'bridge' over the cattle drink which are in poor condition. Proposals will be discussed with RCC.

The northern entry/exit on Ashwell Road has been substantially widened by cutting back the hedging to provide safer egress.

Consideration is being given to footpath surface improvements, particularly those that become most boggy in Winter. Proposals will be discussed with RCC.

### 5. Western Banks

Permissive path signs have been installed as part of the Project's agreement with the landowner.

Paths have been widened throughout through vegetation management.

Our community engagement continues, and the Project has now recruited a Volunteer Manager to safely manage and coordinate future workparties. These will support the maintenance of the E154 adjacent to the canal and the western bank footpaths.

Paul Dadford Project Manager