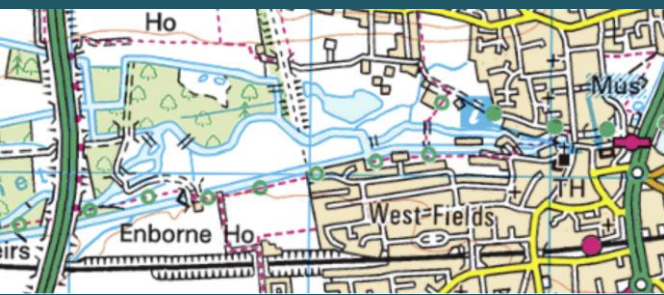


Northcroft Culvert Replacement



This project offers a more cost effective and long term sustainable solution to some of the issues caused by historic modifications to the river Kennet West of Newbury and the dilapidated state of that infrastructure. Water flows with ever increasing volume due to the collapse of old works upstream and this project provides the capacity and control mechanisms to better manage that, reducing peak flooding in Newbury and beyond.

“Putting the river where it wants to be, but also in a place convenient with us”



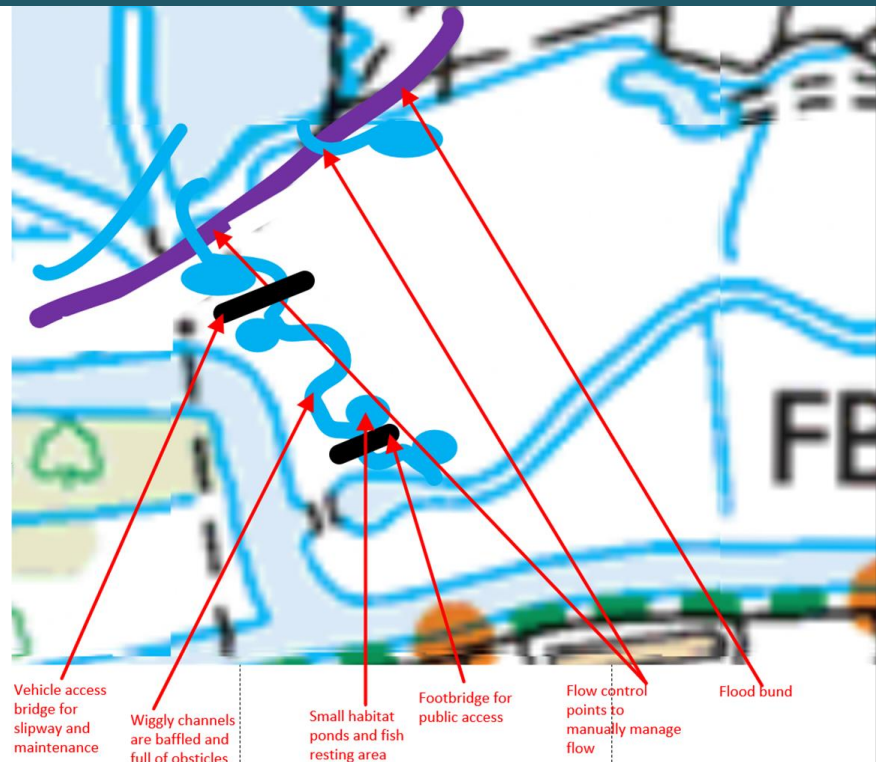
This map shows the extent of channels across the valley floor West of Newbury. These now combine into a single channel under the town bridge. A historic northern channel, has been diverted down a tiny culvert. The limited capacity of that culvert is why the northern channel reemerges in times of peak flow and floods the Northcroft area.

Culvert replacement channel

This project is centred around the replacement of the old culvert that runs under the western edge of the playing fields at Northcroft. With a deep wiggly stream with gently sloped sides and still ponds.

A bund controls the currently unabated flow of water out of the wetlands, into the channel and the existing side stream. It has fish friendly access to the wetlands, but also sluices to control the flow, or even divert water back into the main river channel during times of flood.

Planting will make the still pools a haven for nature. Creating a beautiful place for people to connect with nature, improving the amenity value of the park for the public.



Key Benefits

- Flood protection for houses around Northcroft
- Flow control mechanisms provide options for diverting water during peak flood conditions
- Replaces the historic northern channel properly
- Mitigates risk from aging infrastructure upstream
- Provides fish access into the lakes and wetlands
- Creates habitat for aquatic flora and fauna
- Nature beauty spot for public amenity
- Reeds remove more nutrients from the water
- Retention of more water in wetlands & aquifers