

The New River Improvement Project

7th September 2017

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Community Projects Executive



Corporate Responsibility Team

- * Team of 18 - Education, community investment, volunteering and nature reserves
- * Manage a £6.5 million community investment fund between 2014 and 2019
- * Aim to engage customers and communities through:
 - * environmental enhancement
 - * improving access and recreation
 - * educational outreach

Governance

- All funding applicants apply by form.
- All spend is approved in advance by our Charities Committee
- A Memorandum Of Understanding is generated to release the funds to the partner.

The New River – a brief history

- * Aqueduct completed in 1613 by Goldsmith and Adventurer Hugh Myddelton and Mathematician Edward Wright.
- * King James I agreed to provide half the costs on condition he received half of the profits
- * Total cost of construction was £18,500.
- * Essential part of London's water supply. 48 million gallons a day are carried for treatment.



The New River – a brief history

- * Originally fed only by sources at Chadwell and Amwell Springs.
- * The course of the New River now ends at Stoke Newington East Reservoir (Woodberry Wetlands).
- * Water levels are regulated by sluices.



Path development

- * The New River Path was developed over 12 years at a cost of over £2 million
- * 28 miles from Hertfordshire to North London.
- * We have worked in partnership with, and with the support of, many organisations; including Groundwork, the New River Action Group, Friends of New River Walk, schools and communities, and all the local authorities along the route.



Current Project scope

- * 18 month project due for completion early 2019.
- * In partnership with Groundwork Hertfordshire:
 - * Repair and replace old fencing, gates and signage
 - * Bridge repairs
 - * Improvements to key access points / kissing gates
 - * New track surface along parts of the route
 - * Seating
 - * New interpretation boards and safety signage

Programme

- * Thames awarded Groundwork £126K funding in late 2016
- * Surveys and outline access and sign design complete April 2017
- * Detailed technical design August 2017
- * Implementation late 2017
- * Fencing and surface improvements design January 2018
- * Implementation and restoration of bridge structures by June 2018
- * Landscaping Autumn/Winter 2018
- * Complete Jan 2019

Litter



Littering is a complex issue and one that we wish to improve. Unfortunately we do not currently have the facility to go and collect waste on a regular basis.

We are seeking to work with operations, the council and our dedicated team of volunteers to resolve this issue.

We encourage New River Path users to take all their litter home with them, or to the nearest bin.



Future work

- * Further work to improve the London section of the New River Path
- * Community liaison and events
- * New and improved New River Walk booklet

Other Thames Water projects in the area: Firs Farm, Enfield

- Focused on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) Shortlisted for utility week awards – community initiative and Water Industry Awards
- The project prompted residents to establish a Friends group in this park for the first time, something that is strongly supported by Enfield Council and Thames Water as a way of facilitating long-term community involvement in the project.
- The funding created the wetlands and developed flood risk management features that will protect a large number of properties from surface water flooding as well as diverting additional surface water run-off through the Firs Farm Wetlands, encouraging the growth of flora and fauna.



06/03/2014



27/08/2015 15:19



Woodberry Wetlands



Discussion and Feedback

