

# Thetford River Corridor

Section	Issue	Recommendation	Responsibility/Actioned by
<b>Kilverstone - Hurth Way</b>	Adoption – Land is still owned by developer.	Open space is adopted	Breckland/Town Council
	Access – From Hurth Way there is no easy access to river.	In conjunction with road crossing an access to the river should be created	NCC/Breckland/GP GI
	Pruning – Certain areas of path overgrown and river view obscured	With the Tree Officer's approval thinning of trees and undergrowth	Breckland/Developer
<b>Hurth Way Bridge</b>	No crossing point from Cloverfield to the Melford Bridge 'Tavern' site	Preferably a tunnel is created linking the 'Tavern' site to the Cloverfield river path	NCC/Breckland/GP GI
<b>Hurth Way - Melford Bridge</b>	The path from the Melford Common to Hurth Way is getting seriously overgrown and impassable. If not maintained as a right of way this path will be lost.	In the short term the path is cut back to maintain access. Ultimately a enhanced path should be made up allowing access to a Hurth Way crossing point	NCC/Breckland/GP GI
<b>Bridge Station Site</b>	The old Bridge Station Site has remained derelict for years. This is an important gateway to the town so we should resist intensive high rise development of the site. With the under utilised 'Tavern' site and the path along the Thet to Nun's Bridges this would make an ideal low impact car park to service these areas in the similar format to the sympathetic Nun's Bridges car park.	The Bridge Station site is acquired to create a landscaped car park to service both the Thet path and the 'Tavern' site	NCC/Breckland/GP GI

<b>Bridge Station - Ford Meadow</b>	Entrance to the Thet path is by steep steps barring access to many. Further along, the path is overgrown and not well maintained. For wheelchair access a dedicated upgrade of the path will be required	Ramped access is provided making entrance to path accessible to all. The path is upgraded to cater for wheelchair users.	NCC/Breckland/GP GI
<b>Ford Meadow - Nun's Bridges</b>	Ford Meadow needs a management plan and guidance for cutting paths. At present the path opposite Ford Place becomes impassable in the summer.	A management plan and cutting schedule should be produced.	TTC/Natural England/Brecks Project
	The Mortar Spigot has some protruding pieces of angle iron causing a H&S issue.	Old pieces of angle iron should be removed An interpretation panel of the Mortar Spigot should be provided.	TTC
	The remains of two kissing gates are superfluous.	Old wooden gate remains should be removed.	TTC
	The path from the gate opposite Ford place needs making up to become more accessible.	The path should be upgraded.	NCC/Breckland/GP GI/TTC
	The trees along the river are too dense and need thinning to open up riverside views.	With the Tree Officer's approval thinning of trees and undergrowth	Breckland/TTC/Brecks Project
<b>Nun's Bridges – North Bridge</b>	Approaching from Ford Street the old slipway to the river is overgrown with trees & bushes which is breaking up the path and trapping litter.	Trees & bushes need removing and bank to river making good. Improved drainage is required to stop deterioration of path/road surface. An improved/painted fence would be more pleasing to the eye and dropped kerb would be useful.	NCC
	On the same side of the river but on the Ford Place side of the road the wall down to the river adjoining the bridge is in need of repair	Wall should be repaired	Ford Place

<b>Nun's Bridges Car Park</b>	'Welcome to Thetford' header board missing from information panel.	Header board should be replaced	TTC
<b>BTO Reserve - Gentle Bridge</b>	Path is not accessible to wheelchair users and kissing gates make it awkward for pushchairs	The path should be upgraded.	NCC/Breckland/GP GI/TTC/BTO
<b>Gentle Bridge</b>	The Gentle Bridge needs painting and repairs to railings and brick pillars.	The bridge is painted and repairs made to railings and brick pillars.	NCC/Breckland/TTC
<b>Nun's Bridges – Mill Lane</b>	From Nun's Bridges walkers have walk along the road to Mill Lane	A path should be created along the roadside to encourage walkers.	Breckland/GP GI/ NCC/Brecks Project
	Cars regularly park along this section of grass verge creating barren patches and muddy ruts.	Cars should be deterred from parking on the grass and a 3 bay parking section of 'mesh' type surface should be provided nearest the road. This should allow some grass to grow and the cars weight borne by the metal 'mesh' similar to that used at the Nun's Bridges Car Park.	Breckland/GP GI/ NCC/Brecks Project
<b>Nun's Bridges – Middle Ditch</b>	There is Himalayan Balsam & Japanese Knotweed taking over this area	A supervised work party is allowed to clear the area of these plants.	Breckland/TTC
<b>Gentle Meadow</b>	The meadow is an underutilised resource and its use could be promoted further.	Consideration for further uses of the meadow should be given e.g. trim trail etc	Breckland/GP GI/TTC
	The hedge along the railings does not allow walkers from the town centre end an inviting entrance to the meadow	An enhanced entrance should be made to the gap in the railings at the town centre end. Possibly an entrance arch or interpretation panel.	Breckland/GP GI/TTC

<b>Spring Walk</b>	The path surface is desperate need of improvement with it breaking up in places and water lying in large puddles making the path difficult to use.	The path along Spring Walk should be resurfaced with a uniform surface and improved drainage in certain sections.	NCC/Breckland/TTC
	A large amount of bushes, weeds and shoots from the base of trees obscure the view of the river along the length of the path.	This undergrowth should be pruned back to allow an improved view of the river.	Work Party
	In the river there are many items of rubbish, trolleys, etc.	A work party is detailed to remove such items from the river.	Breckland/TTC/Canoe Club?
<b>Sluice Gate</b>	The fencing at the Sluice Gate is over engineered and the galvanised finish detracts from the riverside walk.	A more sympathetic fence should be erected around the sluice gate mechanism. In the short term the fencing should be painted green to allow it to blend in to the surroundings.	NCC/Environment Agency
<b>Island Site - Bridges Walk</b>	The scaffold pole fencing is ugly and ineffective.	The fencing is replaced by railings in keeping with those used along Spring Walk	Breckland/GP GI/TTC
	The concrete path finishes c150m from the Bridges Walk meaning in wet weather the path is not very accessible.	A new surfaced path is laid from Bridges Walk to the Sluice Gate.	Breckland/GP GI/TTC
	The grass cutting of the area is erratic. Explanations have been given that asbestos has been found in the wild area however a path has been cut through this area recently.	The area is decontaminated and landscaped as was the plan when Breckland acquired the site. The grass is kept under control, even if this contaminated area is at a longer length to that adjoining the pathway.	Breckland/SERCO
	There is no seating in this area	Two benches are installed. One looking toward the town centre between the two iron bridges and another facing the waterfall from the Mill Pond behind the Coffee Mill	TTC
	In the river there are many items of rubbish, trolleys, etc.	A work party is detailed to remove such items from the river.	Breckland/TTC/Canoe Club?

<b>Bridges Walk – Mill Lane end</b>	<p>At the Mil Lane end of Bridges Walk there is a short section of wooden fence, two old gates padlocked together and an area of overgrown bushes.</p> <p>Adjoining this section is a piece of land next to the Betting Shop which has a crumbling low brick wall and regularly becomes overgrown.</p> <p>All in all this does not make an attractive entrance to the river corridor.</p>	<p>The fence and gates should be replaced with railings in keeping with the iron bridges.</p> <p>The overgrown area should be cleared and planted with shrubs/bushes.</p> <p>The land next to the betting shop should be registered and adopted to make a more appealing approach to Bridges Walk.</p>	Breckland/GP GI/TTC
<b>Butten Island</b>	<p>The paths through Butten Island are susceptible to flooding and in three areas these regularly are under water even with a small amount of rain.</p>	<p>The paths through Butten Island should be improved and resurfaced.</p> <p>In the short term the sections prone to being under water could be raised with pipes underneath to allow for the movement of ground water.</p>	Breckland/SERCO/Work Party
	<p>The tree canopy is too low and there are areas where trees and bushes need thinning. This does not allow good views of the Duleep Singh Statue, the Coffee Mill etc.</p>	<p>The lower branches on the trees should be pruned, some trees should be thinned and bushes pruned/removed to allow a better view.</p>	Breckland/SERCO
	<p>The wooden fence in the centre of Butten Island is subject to graffiti and its light colour makes it too noticeable</p>	<p>Graffiti should be removed and the fence stained a darker colour.</p>	Breckland/SERCO/Work Party/TTC
	<p>There is a lack of seating in on the island</p>	<p>More seats should be provided.</p>	Breckland/TTC
	<p>The area around the statue is muddy and not well kept.</p> <p>The grass cutting tends to cut the ground up making an eyesore.</p>	<p>Consideration should be given to a low hedge or shrubs which would thrive in the damp environment but would make the area more attractive than the mud bath currently.</p>	Breckland/TTC

<b>School Lane Car Park</b>	The bridge by the Coffe Mill has a number of cobbles removed and the holes have been filled with tarmac. This does not look very attractive.	Cobbles are replaced also around lighting columns in car park where again tarmac has been used in haste.	Norfolk CC
	There is nowhere to store any rowing boats/canoes for public hire	Consideration should be given to the provision of a brick built shed to the rear of the pumping station near the kiosk for the storage of craft. The kiosk could be responsible for the hire of craft.	Breckland/TTC
<b>Coffee Mill - 3 Legged Bridge</b>	A large amount of bushes, weeds and shoots from the base of trees which obscures the view of the river especially facing the Coffee Mill by the kiosk.	This undergrowth should be pruned back to allow an improved view.	Work Party
<b>3 Legged Bridge</b>	The bridge is need of cleaning/painting	Bridge should be cleaned and consideration given to painting in the green and red which is being used on the other railings around the town.	Breckland
	The bridge has no handrail and the top of the bridge is too high and wide for gripping.	A handrail should be provided.	Breckland
	The approach ramps to the bridge from the Bridge Street car park are too steep.	New approach ramps should be made at a suitable gradient in line with current guidelines.	Breckland
	The exit on to Bутten Island has a trip hazard being the end of the bridge and the approach ramp is not at the same gradient as the bridge.	The ramp from Bутten Island should be made more in line with the Bridge gradient and level with the end of the bridge.	Breckland/ GP GI
<b>3 Legged Bridge - Town Bridge</b>	The lower section of the walkway on the north side of the river needs cleaning, weeds removed and the uneven sections around the bases of trees made tidy.	The section should be cleaned, treated with weedkiller and the bases of the trees levelled.	Breckland

	There are large amounts of weeds coming from the walls of the of the river bank. Not only does make the area not look cared for in time it will cause damage to the masonry.	Weeds growing from brickwork should be removed	Breckland
	The river weeds in this section need cutting to stop litter being trapped.	Weeds should be cut on a regular basis.	Environment Agency
<b>Town Bridge – Anchor Side</b>	The area of grass by the entrance to the car park once had two trees which have been removed apart from the stumps.	Tree stumps should be removed and the proposed Dad’s Army statue situated on this piece of green.	Breckland
	The engineering brick planter by the bridge has flowers but these cannot be seen unless you stand on the bridge due to the soil level being too low.	A mixture of plants and shrubs should replace bedding plants tiered to allow these to be appreciated as people walk along the path.	Breckland
	There is a section of new railing here which is not in keeping with Town Bridge railing.	The tiered plating of shrubs would hide this section of railing, however a replacement with a more sympathetic section of railing would be a better solution.	Breckland/Norfolk CC/TTC
	The vivid orange lifebelts do not add to aesthetic appearance of the Town Bridge.	A alternative place for the lifebelts should be found nearby.	Breckland
<b>Town Bridge - Blaydon Bridge</b>	The Haling path is uneven and the revetments are falling into the river.	The path needs to be renewed and the revetments repaired	Norfolk CC/Breckland
	Trees and bushes along the banks of both sides of the river are overgrown which block views of the river.	Trees should be pruned and bushes cut back & removed where necessary.	Breckland/Work Party

	A number of seats & bins have been removed at various times. Many walkers like to stop and take a rest overlooking the river and some elderly walkers find this length of river too long without a rest.	Seats and bins need replacing	Breckland/TTC
<b>Blaydon Bridge</b>	The Blaydon Bridge plaque is subject to graffiti	Graffiti needs removing	Breckland
<b>Water Meadows</b>	The electricity substation by the entrance to Water Meadows is an eyesore	To reduce the visual impact the fencing should be painted green.	EDF
	Trees and bushes along the banks block views of the river.	Trees should be pruned and bushes cut back & removed where necessary.	Breckland/Work Party
	There is no interpretation at the site of the old staunch.	An interpretation panel about the Thetford Navigation and its staunches should be produced.	TTC
	The path from the Blaydon Bridge across the meadows into town is merely a mud path and does not encourage walking/cycling.	The path across the meadows should be upgraded.	Breckland/ GP GI
	The section of meadows from Blaydon Bridge to Canterbury Way is overgrown and walking along this section makes individuals feel unsafe.	Whilst some wildlife areas can be maintained improved visibility along this section would make it more attractive for walkers and would encourage better usage.	Breckland
	The 'beach' area near the Canterbury Way road bridge needs repair and the rubbish in the river needs removing	Repair 'beach' area & remove rubbish from river	Breckland/Work Party
<b>Canterbury Way - Bypass</b>	The path along the river now becomes a muddy track and is not signed.	The path should be upgraded to allow further use by walkers/cyclists and indicative signage given.	Breckland/ GP GI
	Some areas are heavily overgrown	Trees should be pruned and bushes cut back & removed where necessary.	Breckland/Work Party

<b>Bypass - Little Ouse Path</b>	The path along the river is a muddy track and is not signed.	The path should be upgraded to allow further use by walkers/cyclists and indicative signage given.	Breckland/ GP GI
	The weir and bridge to the west of the bypass is not very accessible to walkers/cyclists crossing the river.	The weir and bridge should be upgrading to allow improved access for cyclists to the forest.	Environment Agency/ Breckland/ GP GI
<b>River Traffic - General</b>	River traffic cannot proceed past Brandon to Thetford.	The river should be opened up to traffic to Thetford	Environment Agency/ Breckland/ GP GI