



HORSEHAY POOL MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT: INTERIM REPORT

Red Kite Network Ltd
April 2020



Telford & Wrekin
COUNCIL

Contents

1.0	Introduction	3
1.1	Context	3
1.2	Background to Plan	3
1.3	Format of Plan	3
1.4	Development of the Plan	3
1.5	Purpose of the Plan	4
2.0	Site Description	5
2.1	Site Context	5
2.2	Legal Issues and Designations	5
2.3	Historical Context	7
2.4	Landscape Character and Views	10
2.5	Ecology	11
2.6	Hydrology	13
2.7	Fishing	14
2.8	Accessibility	16
2.9	Current Management and Maintenance	19
3.0	Wider Context	20
3.1	Policy Context	20
3.2	Community Context	22
3.3	Stakeholders	22
4.0	Recent and Planned Improvements	27
4.1	Highways Improvement Scheme	27
4.2	Dam	27
4.3	Telford Steam Railway Trust	28
4.4	Severn Trent	28
4.5	Pocket Parks	28
4.6	Bridge Road	28
4.7	Ecology Management Plan	28
5.0	Analysis and Evaluation	30
6.0	Vision, Aims and Objectives	32
7.0	Sketch Options	37
7.1	Sketch Option 1	37
7.2	Sketch Option 2	38
7.3	Sketch Option 3	39
8.0	Concept Masterplan Options	
9.0	Implementation	
9.1	Action Plan	
9.2	Monitoring and Evaluation	

Appendices

Appendix A: Ecology Walkover Report

Appendix B: Horsehay Pool Aquatic Assessment (Five Rivers)

Red Kite Network Limited

The John Rose Building, High Street, Coalport, Shropshire, TF8 7HT
t: 01952 582111
e: info@redkitenetwork.co.uk
w.: www.redkitenetwork.co.uk

Copyright © Red Kite Network Limited 2020



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Context

Horsehay Pool (the Site) is approximately 8.5 acres and is owned and managed by Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC). It is located at OS National Grid Reference SJ 6732 0735, in Horsehay, on the outskirts of Telford, Shropshire. This Management and Maintenance Plan (MMP) has been developed to bring together all interested parties to create a holistic plan for the maintenance of the whole Site to include ecology, visitor access, angling, water levels and historic maintenance.

1.2 Background to the Plan

In January 2020, TWC commissioned Red Kite Network Ltd, landscape architects, ecology and greenspace consultants of Coalport, Shropshire, to prepare a MMP for the Site. The brief for the commisison was:

- To bring together all interested stakeholders and residents;
- Address user group conflict by creating a common plan and factual evidence to support the conclusions within;
- Provide 3no. landscape drawings showing options for site improvements for public consultation;
- The Plan may be used as evidence towards external funding, including Heritage Lottery Grants, Lottery Grants and other funding streams as part of the evidence base.

1.3 Format of the Plan

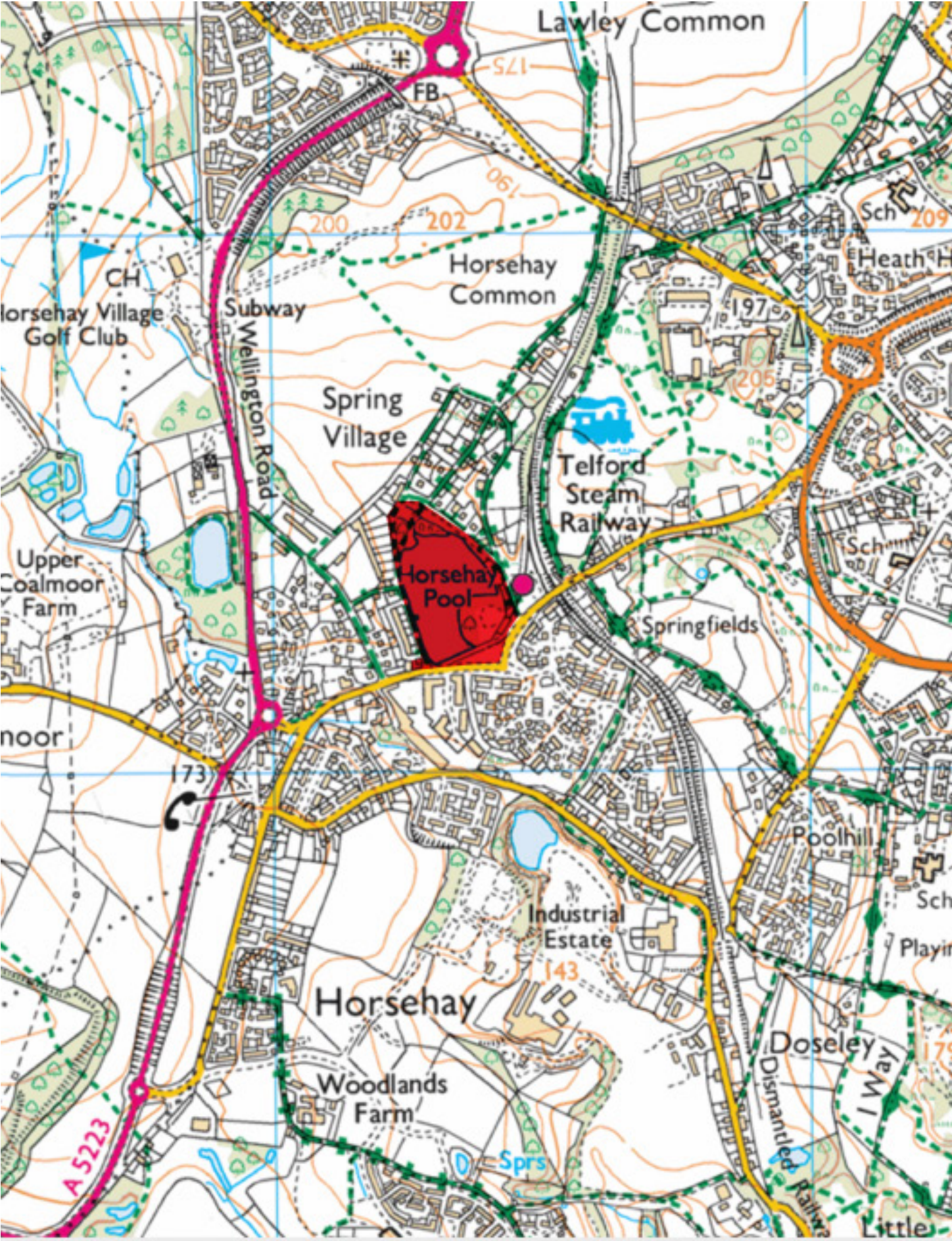
The format, style and narrative of this MMP has been developed to reflect the requirements of TWC, local stakeholders and the wider community. It draws on the guidance from the following best practice:

- Cabe Space (2004), A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans;
- Heritage Lottery Fund (2012), Management and Maintenance Plan Guidance
- Keep Britain Tidy (2017), Raising the Standard: The Green Flag Award Guidance Manual;
- English Heritage (2007), The Management and Maintenance of Historic Parks, Gardens and Landscape.

1.4 Development of the Plan

The production of the MMP took place over a number of weeks in early 2020. The following work phases were carried out:

- Pre-start meeting to clarify purpose of MMP and visit the Site;
- Desk review of information supplied by client;
- Site appraisal and stakeholder meetings;
- Technical evaluation- hydrological investigation and assessment; accessibility audit; heritage appraisal; and fishing sustainability assessment;
- Green Flag Award Assessment;
- Public drop-in sessions;
- Development of sketch proposals and options to be reviewed;



Site location

- Development of concept masterplans (RIBA Stage 2), action planning and objective setting;
- Publish final draft of MMP.

The following organisations and people have played significant roles in the preparation of this document:

- Telford and Wrekin Council;
- Dawley Hamlets Parish Council;
- Friends of Horsehay Pool and Environs;
- Telford Angling Association;
- Telford Steam Railway Trust;
- Local residents.

Although those responsible for the development of the MMP are listed above, the on-going engagement and involvement of the local community is vital to informing and developing the Plan on a continual basis.

1.5 Purpose of the Plan

This MMP is an overarching document which encompasses a range of policies, strategies and consultation to formulate a long term plan for the future management of the Site. The Plan focuses not just on the landscape but also considers the balance between heritage, visitors, ecology and the overall function of the Site as a public place for recreation.

The principle objectives of the Plan are to:

- Critically review and analyse the current management and maintenance arrangements and procedures;
- Set out the agreed vision and principles for the continued management of the pool;
- Provide a benchmark against which performance of the identified management objectives can be measured;
- Ensure that the needs of heritage, landscape and the community are balanced in the context of the local area;
- Be a document that shapes, directs, assists and manages the future development of the Site;
- Be a document that incorporates the ideas and suggestions of the community and stakeholders;
- Act as a master reference document and to enable staff, site managers and volunteers to easily access key information;
- Identify the current and future management and maintenance costs for the pool and identify the potential sources of income and other resources necessary to successfully manage and maintain it and restore it;
- Demonstrate quality management to external verifiers, award bodies, grant agencies and funding bodies.

The Plan has been prepared for a number of audiences:

- Telford and Wrekin Council staff and elected members- to allocate resources and plan maintenance;
- Partner organisations and stakeholders, the Parish Council, residents, Friends of Horsehay Pool, anglers and adjacent businesses etc- a tool for setting priorities, planning volunteer activities and identifying roles and responsibilities;
- Funding bodies- a mechanism for monitoring the success and impact of financial support;
- External award bodies- as an evidence base for evaluating best practice.



Aerial map

2.0 Site Description

2.1 Site Context

The Site is located within Horsehay, a village on the western outskirts of Dawley within Telford, and approximately 2.5 miles from Telford Town Centre. The village grew around the Horsehay Ironworks, which were constructed by Abraham Darby II between 1754-7. Horsehay Pool was created by the construction of a dam at a nearby stream, which provided the power source for the works.

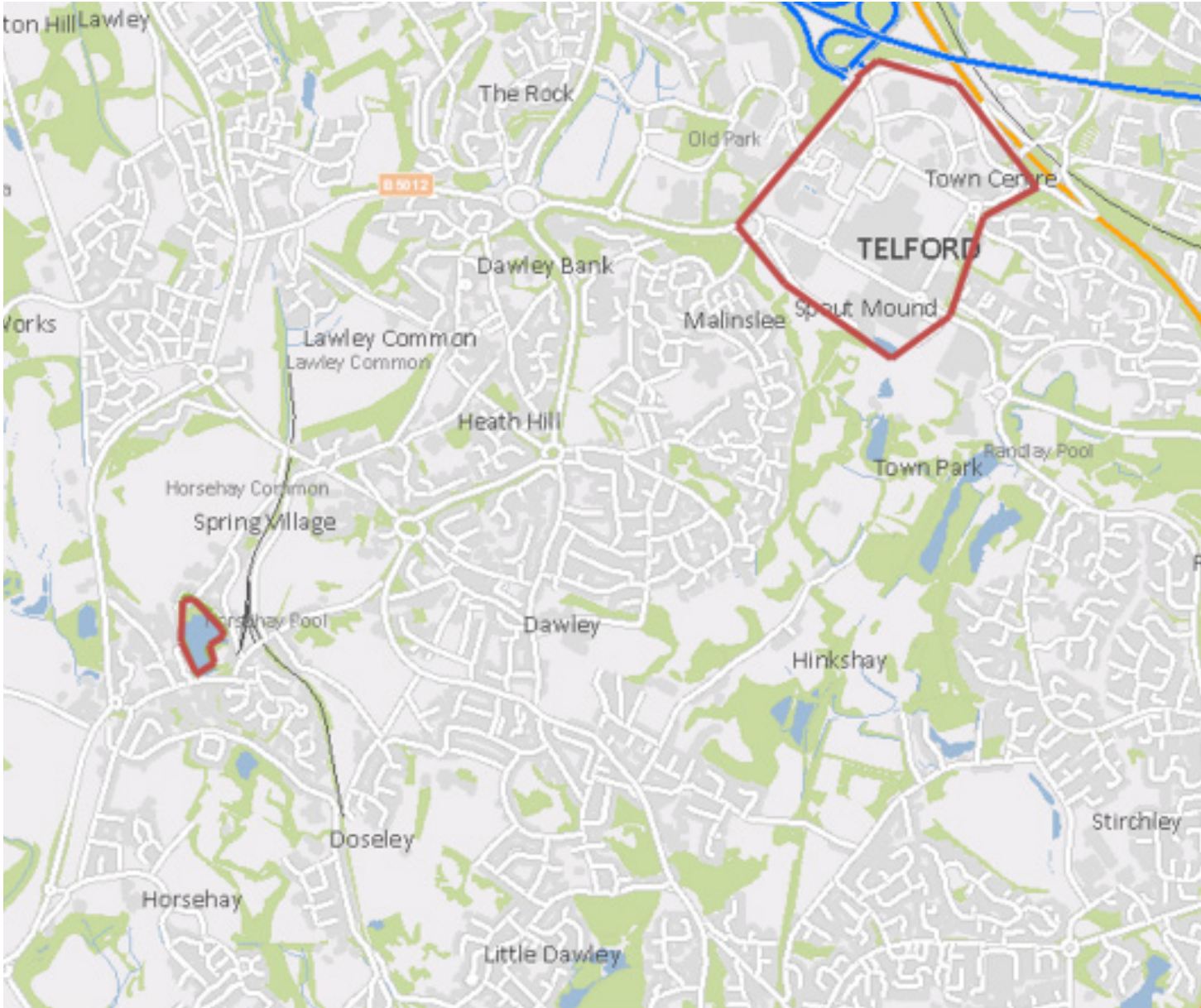
Horsehay Pool is now a public open space, owned and managed by TWC, and used mainly for recreation, dog walking and angling. A bus stop (Farm Lane) is located less than 100m away from the Site, on Bridge Road. The Site is well-served by a Public Right of Way network, including the Telford T50 50 Mile Trail.

The Site comprises a single large waterbody, surrounded by industrial and residential development. The western boundary is formed by the narrow historic residential roads of Pool View and New Row. The terraced houses along this row, facing on to the pool, used to be the workers cottages of the former Horsehay Ironworks. The northern area of the Site comprises an area of open grass and trees, which is sometimes referred to as the village green. It has some picnic benches, and a stretch of surfaced path and boardwalk. Two narrow streams originating from Horsehay Common (now a golf course) to the north of the Site, pass through this area, and feed into Horsehay Pool. They flow around a large overgrown island in the north eastern corner of the pool.

Bordering the north and north-eastern boundaries of the Site are the newer, less dense residential areas of Pool Side and Spring Village. The houses are set back from the road, with a wide grass verge and a row of fruit trees separating the pool from the road. The far eastern boundary of the Site is defined by the private back gardens of Pool Side. The Telford Steam Railway Trust is located on an area of land which extends into the south-eastern corner of the Site. The Telford Steam Railway Trust was created in the 1970s to preserve steam engines, and the site is now operated as a tourist attraction by volunteers. The historic railway line, which runs parallel to the eastern boundary of the Site, was originally constructed to service the local ironworks. It was then opened to passenger traffic in 1857 and was leased by Great Western Railway, but closed to passenger traffic in 1962. The Old Loco Shed associated with the former railway is located on the corner of Bridge Road and Pool Side.

The southern boundary of the pool is formed by the dam wall and old Bridge Road, which used to abut the former factory until it was realigned in the 1990s. A section of clinker wall remains and now acts as a retaining wall to a large grass mound, built out of the spoil created when the new Bridge Road was constructed. To the south of Bridge Road is the Bridges industrial estate, comprising light industrial units. There is a seating and viewing area in the south eastern corner of the Site, opposite the fish and chip shop’s car park.

A number of fishing pegs are located around the pool, but are mostly concentrated along Pool View. These are regularly used by members of the Telford Angling Association. The Friends of Horsehay Pool and Environs was founded in 2018 to assist with the development and maintenance of the Site, including wildlife, habitats, heritage and infrastructure. Other stakeholders of the Site include Dawley Hamlets Parish Council, My Options disability group, and local residents.



Map showing location of the Site relative to Telford town centre

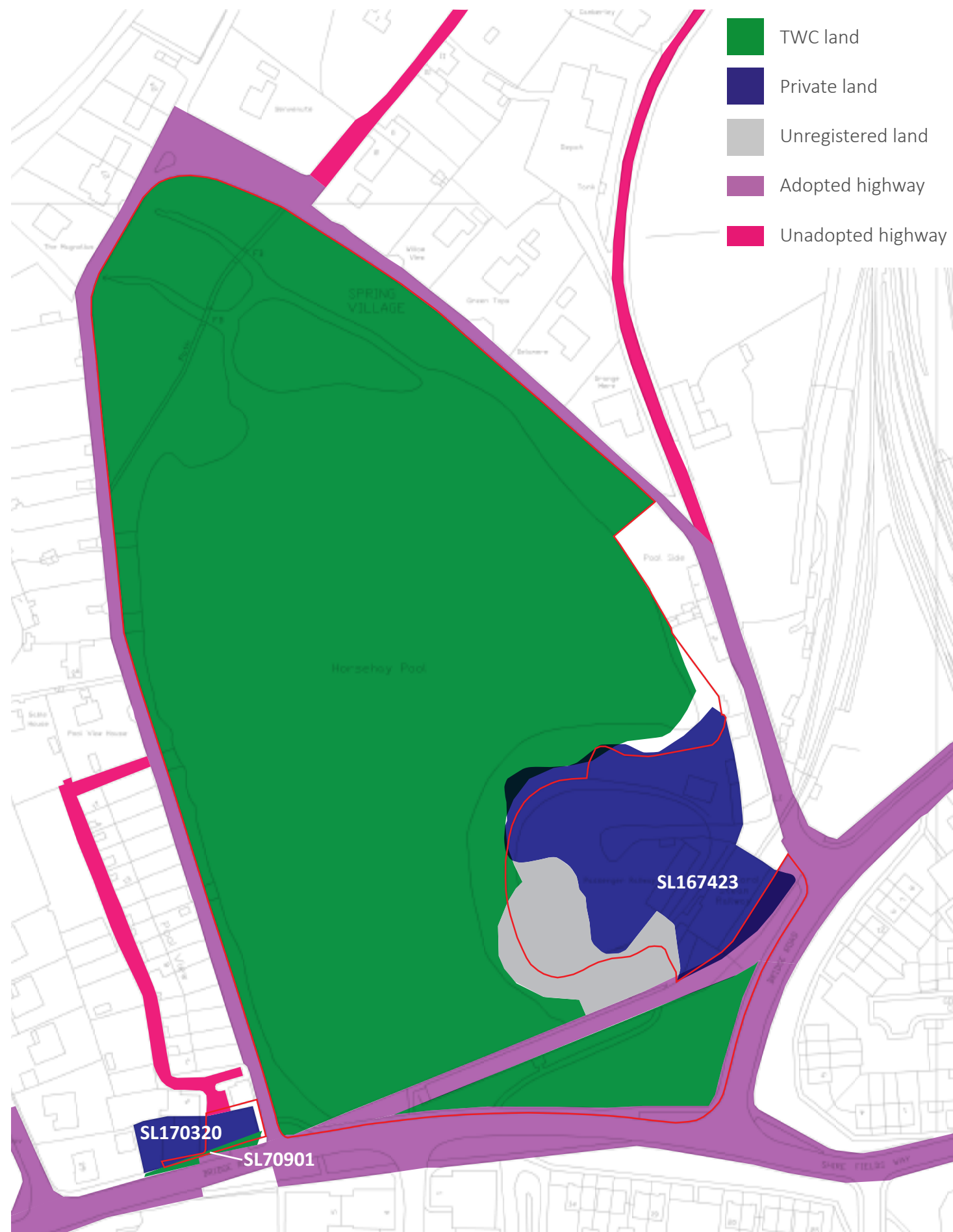
2.2 Legal Issues and Designations

Land tenure and ownership

The following map summarises the land tenure and ownership details of the Site. The majority of the Site is owned in freehold by TWC. Telford Steam Railway Trust own in freehold the land with title number SL167423, which includes the Old Loco Shed. There is an area of unregistered land to the west of the Telford Steam Railway Trust land. The fish and chip shop and car park area (title number SL170320) is owned privately. A small piece of adjacent land abutting the road (title number SL70901) was transferred to TWC to form part of the highway, and contains a provision as to light or air and the creation and/or passing of easements.

Highways

The following map also shows which roads immediately surrounding the Site are adopted and unadopted. The road behind Pool View is unadopted, and in recent years, local residents have taken up maintenance responsibilities for the road. The unnamed road off Pool Side and Spring Village are also unadopted.



Land ownership and highways

Reservoirs Act

Horsehay Pool is a 'statutory reservoir' under the Reservoirs Act 1975, as it is capable of holding 25,000m³ of water or more. The Act sets out the duties and responsibilities of reservoir owners with regards to reservoir safety, and is regulated by the Environment Agency. TWC's Drainage and Structures Team carry out these duties, including weekly visual inspections of the dam structure, inlets and outlets, as well as taking weekly water level recordings. Yearly inspections and reports are undertaken by a Supervising Engineer, and 10 yearly inspections and reports are carried out by an Inspecting Engineer. The 10 year inspections, last undertaken in 2016, identify mandatory and recommended actions to be taken by the reservoir owners.

Fishing rules and licenses

An angling licence between TAA and TWC was formed in 2018, and expires on 31 March 2020. TAA pay an annual licence fee of £506.00 to fish at the Site. The maximum number of authorised pegs permitted on the Site is 16 but for the time is reduced to 14 due to effluent leakage on the eastern boundary. Fishing is permitted between 8am and 8.30pm April to October, and 8am to 4pm November to March. No night fishing is allowed, apart from a limited number of pre-agreed charity events. Up to 20 competitions/matches are permitted in a 12 month period, subject to prior approval from TWC. All events are to be advertised on site at least five working days beforehand to give notice to the general community. TAA are responsible for re-stocking the pool and must obtain prior express permission from the Council and a Fish Movement Consent from the Environment Agency. Any clearance and maintenance works carried out by TAA must gain prior express permission from TWC and be in accordance with the 'Permitted Maintenance for Minor Works' specification.

Designations

Horsehay Pool is part of the Green Network, which is defined within the Telford and Wrekin Local Plan as a strategic interconnected network of open spaces within the urban areas of Telford and Newport. Policy NE6: Green Network states that the Council will protect, maintain, enhance and, where possible, extend the Green Network.

The Site is also within the Horsehay and Spring Village Conservation Area, and therefore subject to Policy BE5: Conservation areas, within the Local Plan. This states that the Council will support development in conservation areas where it will preserve or enhance its character or appearance. Site-specific details regarding the Horsehay and Spring Village Conservation Area is contained within the Appraisal and Management Plan, further details of which are contained within Section 3.1.



Section of unadopted highway

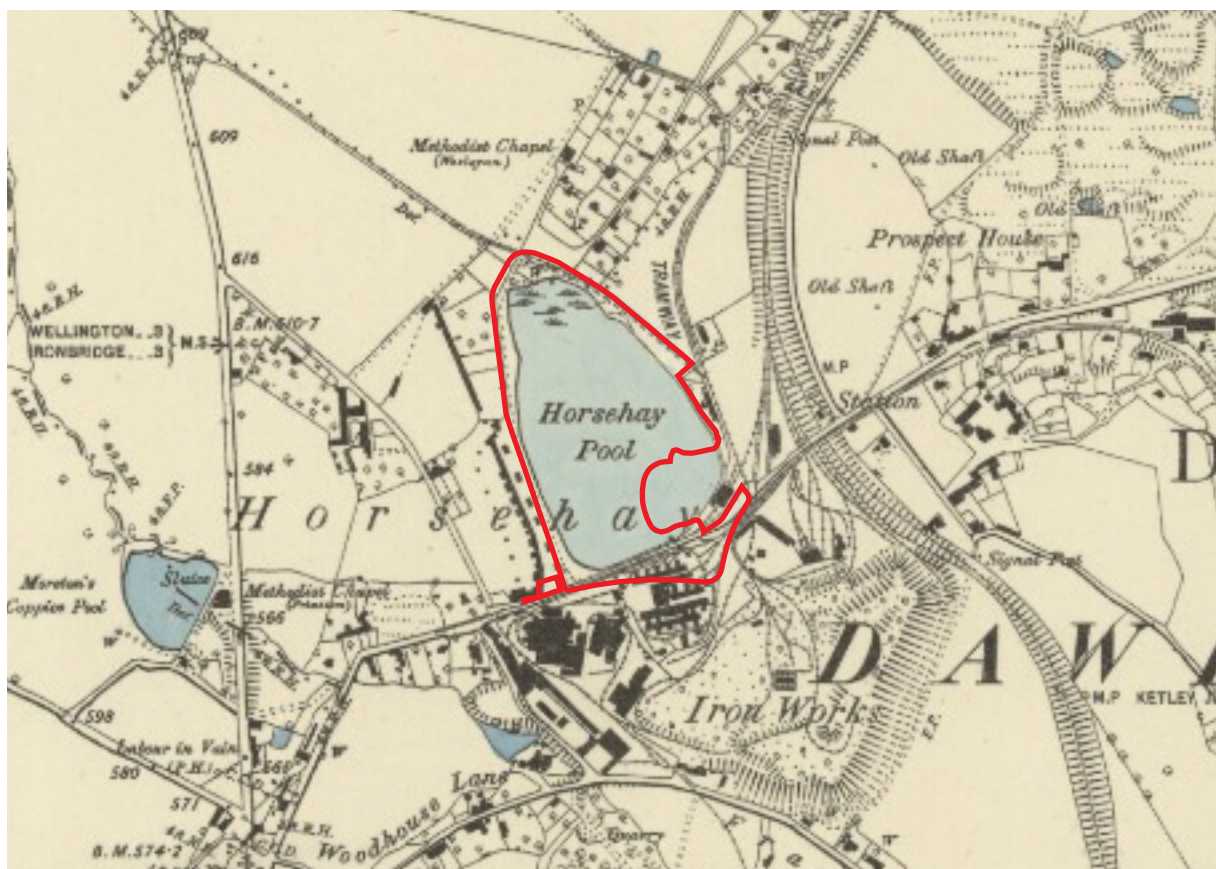


Fishing licence notice

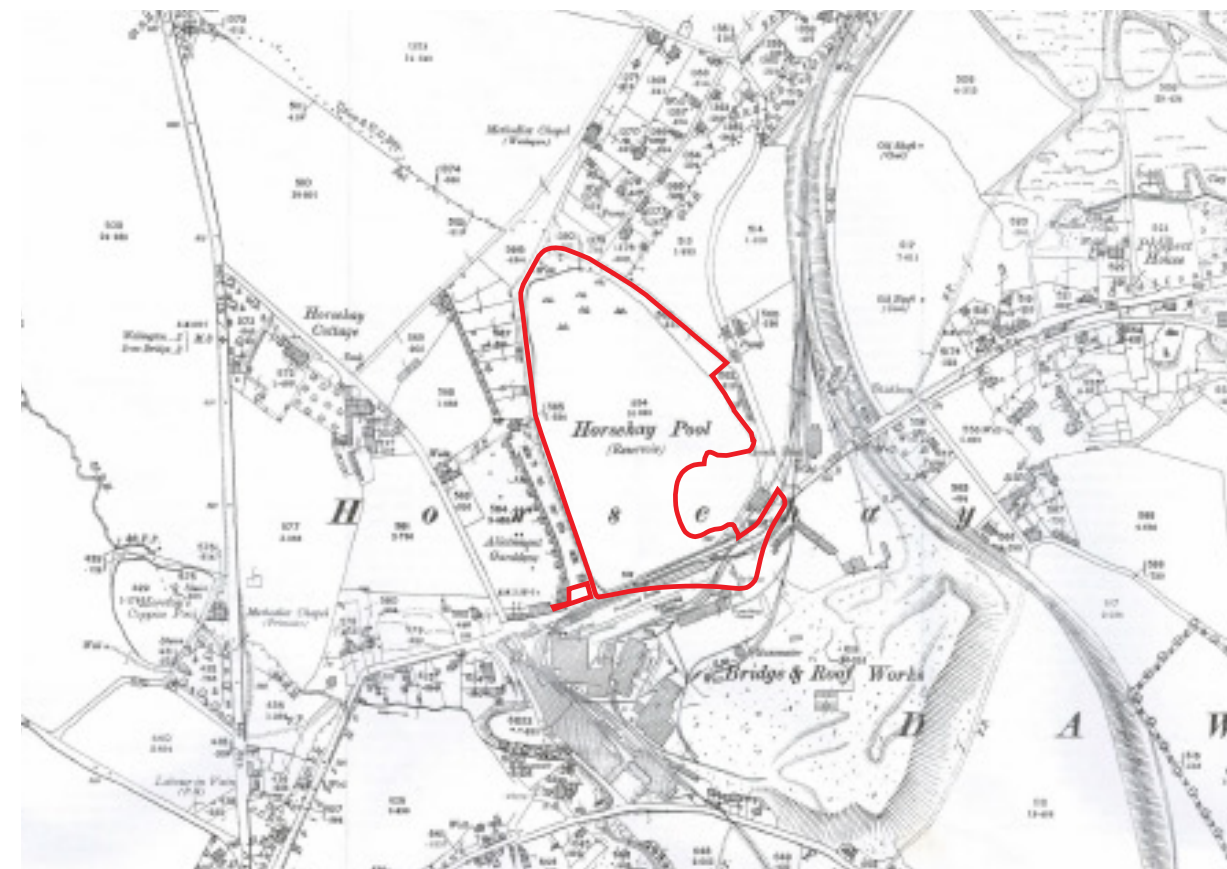
2.3 Historical Context

The historic maps found from 1885, 1902, 1925 and 1966 show that little change has occurred within the Site boundary and its immediate landscape context. The most significant change is the expansion of Bridge & Roof Works southwest of the Site between 1902 and 1925. The villages of Horsehay and Dawley see little development or expansion.

The extent of the pool reduces over time. The 1925 map shows the gradual contraction of the northern area of the pool. By 1966, the pool has approximately the same boundary as it has today, including the two inlet streams from the north. The 1966 map also shows the island area in the south east corner of the pool, now owned by the Telford Steam Railway Trust.



1885



1902



1925

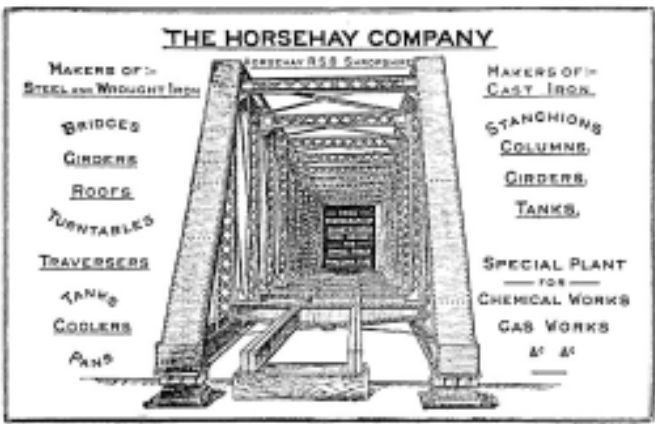


1966

Timeline

The name ‘Horsehay’ is Anglo Saxon, and comes from ‘an enclosure for horses’. Horsehay and Spring Village has since grown around an industrial core, dominated by the development of the Coalbrookdale Company in the 1750s. Horsehay was chosen by the Darby family for their works due to the its prime location and proximity to raw materials. Unfortunatelly, no structures directly associated with the works survive but Horsehay Pool remains a central focal point of the area and one of the most prominent surviving indicators of the area’s industrial past.

The following timeline presents a summary of the pertinent history of Horsehay.



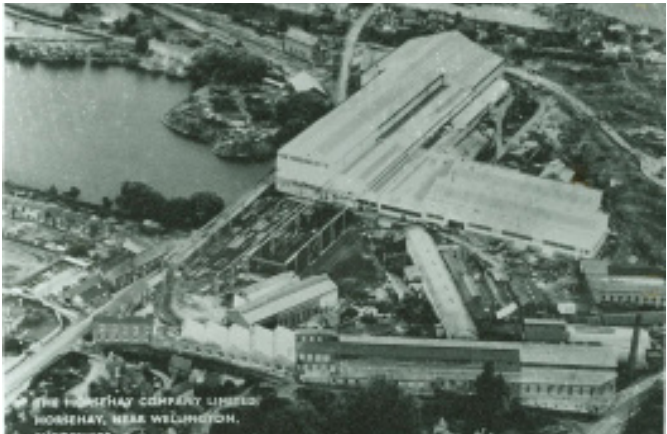
1895 Horsehay Company advertisement



1962 Pool View



View of Top Bridge Yard



Aerial view of Horsehay works

16th Century		18th Century		19th Century		20th Century		21st Century	
1573 - first recording of water corn mill on Horsehay Brook.		Horsehay was established in the 18th century as a trading post and resting place for horses hauling iron to the Ironbridge works.		1821 - The Battle of Cinderloo took place on 2 February, where more than 500 miners gathered in Dawley and marched through Horsehay in protest at pay cuts and increasing poverty. The march gathered in numbers to over 3,000 and culminated in a pitched battle with the local yeomanry, leaving two men dead and many injured.		During WW1, women were employed at Horsehay Works as munition workers.		2018 - Friends of Horsehay Pool formed to help represent the local community.	
		Abraham Darby leased Horsehay Farm in order for the already successful Coalbrookdale Company to expand.		1843 - SS Great Britain was launched, which Horsehay’s rolling mills had provided 1000 tons of rolled iron plates for.		1913 - Edith Pargeter (1913-1995) was born in Horsehay, and published over 70 novels including the famous Cadfael series.			
		Horsehay Ironworks was constructed by Abraham Darby II on the site of the former mill between 1754-7. The mill pool was converted to provide a head of water for the iron furnaces.		The Severn Junction Railway was constructed and leased in 1861 by the Great Western Railway.		1964 - Railway passenger services between Buildwas and Wellington ended.			
		Two years later, a rail link was built from the ironworks to the Severn Wharfs at Ironbridge, making it the world’s first commercial railway.		By the 1870s, the furnaces at Horsehay were blown out and a depression in the iron trade led to the closure of its forges and rolling mills.		Telford Steam Railway, then called Telford Horsehay Steam Trust “THST”, was formed in 1972 to preserve local railway history.			
		William ‘Billy’ Ball (1795-1852), otherwise known as ‘the Shropshire Giant’, worked in the ironworks for 40 years and weighed 40 stone. He was exhibited around country fairs and the Great Exhibition as ‘the largest man in Britain’.		1886 - Simpsons bought the works, which became known as the Horsehay Company, a manufacturer of bridges and large engineering assemblages. The company eventually became known as A.B. Cranes, and manufactured some of the largest cranes in Europe.		The steam railway was opened to the public in 1984.			

Historic Designations

The Site is within the Horsehay and Spring Village Conservation Area. A number of listed buildings, buildings on the Local Interest List, and trees with Tree Protection Orders surround the Site. These are marked on the adjacent map, and listed below.

- 1. Old Row Cottages (List No. 1054169), Grade II. Long row of 15 brick cottages, built in 1750s to house workmen of the Horsehay Ironworks.
- 2. 24 Pool View (List No. 1367387), Grade II. Early 19th century brick cottage.
- 3. New Row Cottages (List No. 1054170), Grade II. Long row of 12 brick cottages, also known as ‘Upper Row’, and was built as “better class cottages” (than the Old Row) “for the principal workmen” of the Horsehay Ironworks.
- 4. Coach House and stables immediately north of New Row Cottages (List No. 1054171), Grade II. 19th Century brick building.
- 5. Horsehay Works Offices (List No. 1367386), Grade II. 19th Century red brick corner building.
- 6. Railway Train Shed, late 19th Century brick train shed with round arched entrance and windows.
- 7. No. 13 and 14, Bridge Road. 18th and 19th Century brick house, two and three storeys, sashes complete with glazing bars.



New Row Cottages



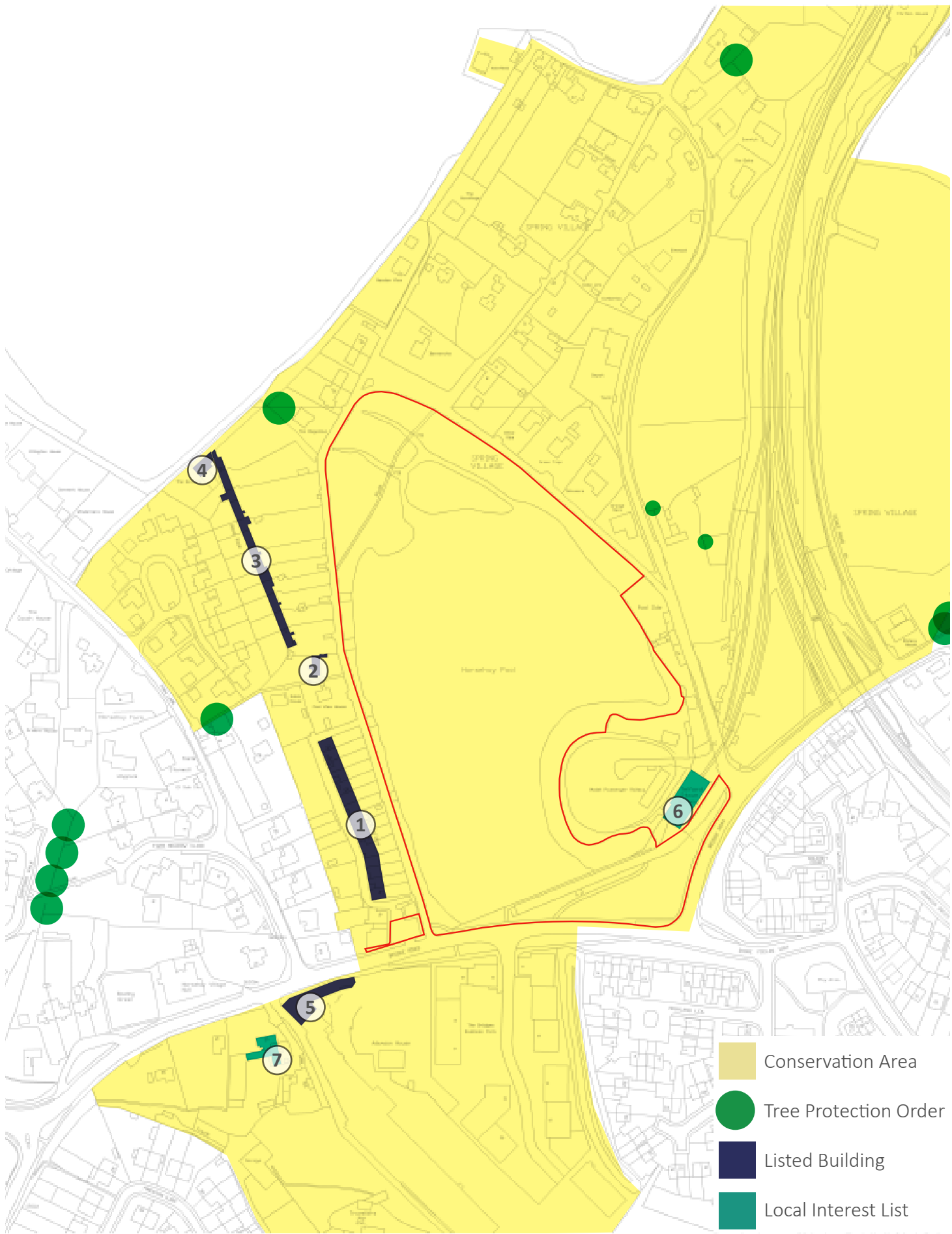
Railway Train Shed (‘Old Loco Shed’)



Old Row Cottages



Horsehay Works, Bridge Road



Historic designations

2.4 Landscape Character and Views

Horsehay Pool forms part of a wider landscape character. Natural England has identified 159 National Character Areas (NCAs) across England, which are areas that share similar landscape characteristics, and which follow natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries. The Site is located in the Mid Severn Sandstone Plateau National Character Area (NCA 66), which is found in the central catchment of the Severn and the lower Stour rivers. The NCA is predominantly rural and important regionally for food production, with large arable fields in the central and eastern areas, and remnant areas of characteristic lowland heathland. The NCA exemplifies the link between geodiversity, landscape and industrial heritage, and contains rich and important heritage assets, including the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site.

The landscape context of the Site broadly reflects this wider landscape character, and consists of the following landscape typologies (as shown in the plan opposite):

Open water

The pool is an open expanse of water, and provides a break in the residential and industrial development which surrounds it. It is an important visual feature within the Conservation Area, and is reinforced by the orientation of houses which surround it, and the various resting places which face the pool. The main approach to the Conservation Area is from the west, along Bridge Road. The corner of Bridge Road and Pool View acts as a gateway to the Site, although currently lacks a sense of arrival and identity.

Industrial

There are pockets of industrial development around the Site, which help characterise the historic development of Horsehay and the surrounding area. The Bridges industrial estate to the south of Site, and the warehouse unit off Spring Village to the north east of the Site, are larger scale modern units; whilst the land associated with Telford Steam Railway Trust, including the old Bridge Road, Old Loco Shed, and train tracks provide a more historic industrial landscape character.

Residential

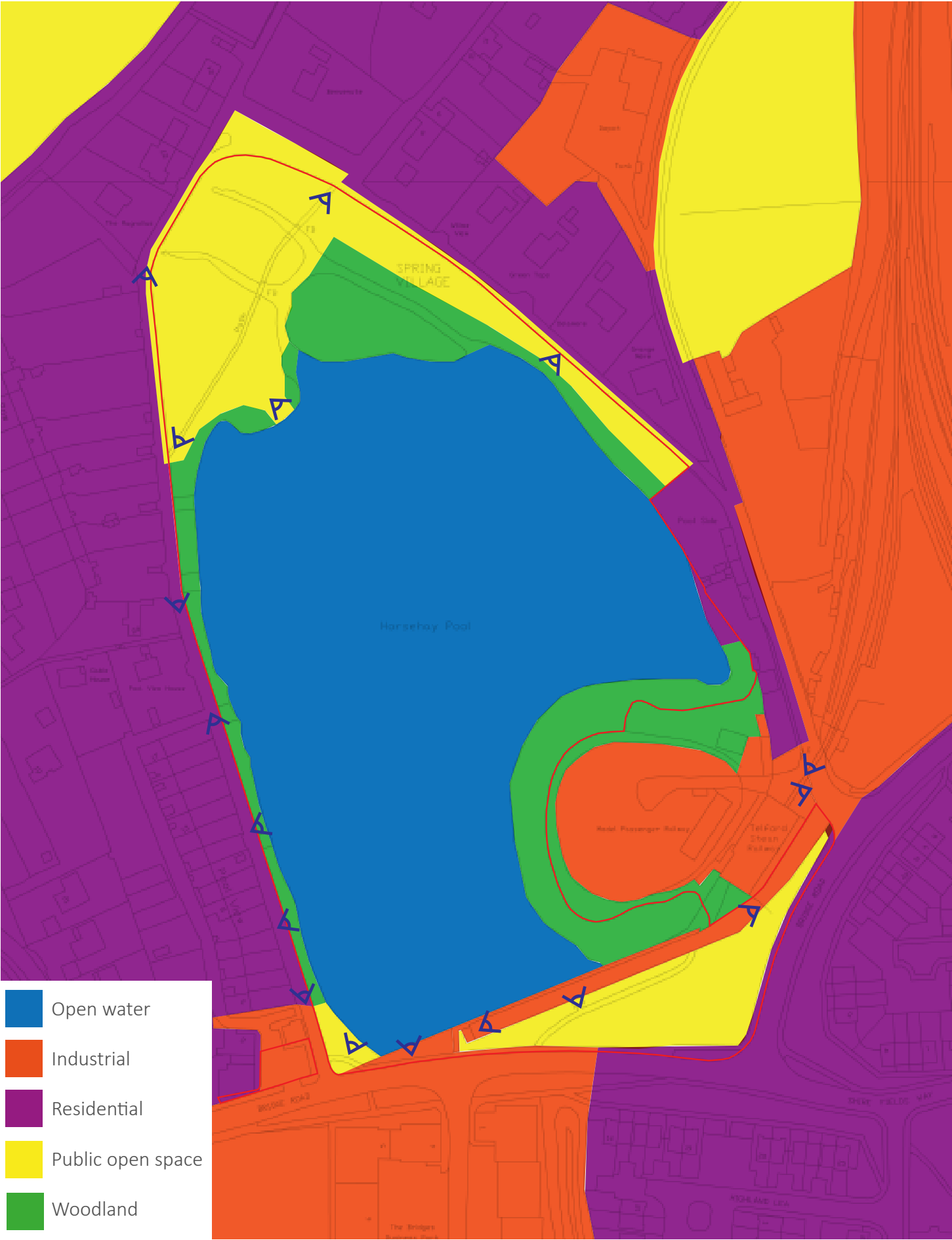
The area to the immediate east, north and west of the Site are residential, and provide a quiet sense of enclosure to the Pool. The listed buildings along Old and New Row provide a distinctive historic character to the area, although this is diminished by the number of parked cars along the road.

Public open space

There are pockets of public open space in and around the Site, which are characterised by amenity grassland, scattered trees, introduced shrub, pathways, and street furniture. The area to the north of the Pool contributes to the village feel of the Conservation Area, whilst the land to south of the pool provides a buffer from the busy Bridge Road.

Woodland

Most of the banks to the pool are densely vegetated with trees and scrub. This provides a wild natural landscape character to the Site, and obscures some key views to and across the pool.









Landscape character and views



2.5 Ecology

An ecology walkover survey was conducted in February 2020 in order to provide an overview of the nature conservation value of the Site. The accompanying report is attached in Appendix A, and a general summary provided below.

Habitats

Habitat Typology	General Habitat Description	Photograph
Broadleaved Woodland-semi-natural	<p>Around the northern and eastern peripheries of the pool is semi-natural broadleaved woodland. The woodland is at its densest in the northern part of the Site. There are a large range of broad-leaved species present. Species recorded during the walkover include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Acer pseudoplatanus (sycamore)- Aesculus hippocastanum (horse-chestnut)- Alnus glutinosa (alder)- Betula pendula (silver birch)- Corylus avellana (hazel)- Cornus sanguine (dogwood)- Crataegus monogyna (hawthorn)- Ilex aquifolium (holly)- Prunus laurocerasus (cherry laurel)- Quercus robur (pedunculate oak)- Salix fragilis (crack willow)- Salix x sepulcralis (weeping willow)- Sambucus nigra (elder)	
Scrub-Scattered	<p>Along the western edge of the pond in between fishing platforms is scattered patches of Rubus fruticosus (bramble) and Rosa canina (dog-rose) scrub.</p>	
Broadleaved Scattered Trees	<p>There are a large number of scattered broadleaved trees around the peripheries of the Site and in amongst patches of amenity grassland. Species include a number of those listed above, along with a noticeable line of prunus and malus species along the north-western, northern, north-eastern and eastern site boundaries.</p>	

Tall Ruderal	<p>Occasionally, where mowing has not taken place, small areas of tall ruderal vegetation were present. The following species were recorded during the survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Anthriscus sylvestris (cow parsley)- Epilobium sp (willowherb)- Hedera helix ssp (ivy)- Rumex obtusifolius (broad-leaved dock)- Urtica dioica (common nettle)	
Standing Water	<p>The majority of the Site consists a single large body of open water known as Horsehay Pool. The pond does not appear to have any aquatic or emergent vegetation and it is stocked with a range of coarse fish species. The pool is fed by two inflows at the most northern part of the Site, a single large outflow is located in the southwest corner of the Site. A number of waterfowl species were observed during the walkover, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)- Canada geese (Branta canadensis)- Moorhen (Gallinula chloropus)- Coot (Fulica atra)- Tufted duck (Aythya fuligula)- Goosander (Mergus merganser) <p>The pool is known to support the following coarse fish species;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Carp (Cyprinus carpio)- Bream (Abramis brama)- Tench (Tinca tinca)- Roach (Rutilus rutilus)- Perch (Perca fluviatilis)- Pike (Essox lucius)	
Running Water	<p>Two water inlets enter the Site from under the road to the north. During the survey the water flow was heavy due to recent heavy rainfall. The stream runs directly into Horsehay Pool. No aquatic vegetation was noted during the survey but this maybe the result of an increased water level. Soft rush (Juncus effusus) was present along the margins.</p>	

Amenity Grassland	Within the northern area of the Site amenity grassland is present. The sward height is uniform throughout through regular mowing. Species recorded are typical for this habitat type, with the following species recorded: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Anthriscus sylvestris (cow parsley)- Bellis perennis (daisy)- Lolium perenne (perennial rye-grass)- Plantago lanceolata (ribwort plantain)- Poa annua (annual meadow grass)- Ranculus repens (creeping buttercup)- Poa annua (annual meadow-grass)	
Introduced Shrub	There are various patches of bamboo (Bambusoideae) present around the boundaries.	



Locations of individual trees and groups of trees used for regular tree surveys

Protected/Notable Species

In the context of this report, protected or notable species of flora or fauna were those considered to meet any of the following criteria:

- Species protected by UK or European legislation;
- Habitats and Species of Principal Importance;
- Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) species;
- Nationally rare or nationally scarce species; and
- Species of Conservation Concern (e.g. JNCC Red List, RSPB/BTO Red or Amber Lists).

Any incidental sightings of species or field signs during the survey were noted, and are summarised below. Ecological constraints refer to how the alteration and ongoing management of the Site has the potential to impact on the species.

Species	Notes	Ecological constraints
Badgers	There were no signs of this species recorded on Site during the survey. The Site is heavily used by the public and situated within an urban location which is likely to deter badgers from utilising the Site. Also there is little habitat suitability for sett construction or foraging.	
Bats	There are no buildings or structures located within the Site which could be used for roosting bats. Also, despite the large number of trees, none were considered to provide potential roost features for bats. This is mainly due to the young age and condition of the trees recorded. The Site does provide suitable foraging habitat for bats and a range of species are anticipated to occur along the vegetated boundaries of the pool. The light spill from nearby residential properties may hinder the Site usage by species which cannot tolerate light pollution.	<p>There are no buildings or structures currently located on Site nor are there any trees of significant size or structural condition to provide bat roosting opportunities. Therefore, no further consideration in relation to roosting bats is deemed necessary.</p> <p>The Site offers suitable commuting/foraging habitat through the Site’s woodland boundaries and could be impacted as a result of unnecessary light spill. Therefore, careful consideration of the incorporation of any potential lighting will need to be considered to avoid potential impacts on foraging bats and other nocturnal wildlife.</p> <p>All species of bats are protected by virtue of the EU Habitats Directive, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000. In summary it is an offence to deliberately or recklessly capture, injure, kill or disturb bats. Disturbance relates to anything that is likely to impair survival or ability to breed/reproduce, rear young or hibernate. Bat species are therefore significant within a national and international context.</p>

Birds	<p>Around the peripheries of the Site are a number of habitats and opportunities for nesting birds such as the woodland and scrub in the northern reaches of the Site. The survey was conducted outside of the nesting bird season (March – August inclusive) so no active bird nests were recorded during the walkover. The following species were observed walking round the Site;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Robin (Erithacus rubecula)- Blackbird (Turdus merula)- Wood pigeon (Columba palumbus)- Great tit (Parus major)- Long-tailed tit (Aegithalos caudatus)- Jackdaw (Corvus monedula)- Grey heron (Ardea cinerea)- House sparrow (Passer domesticus)- Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)- Canada geese (Branta canadensis)- Moorhen (Gallinula chloropus)- Coot (Fulica atra)- Tufted duck (Aythya fuligula)- Goosander (Mergus merganser)- Black-headed gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus)	<p>A variety of breeding birds are expected to occur within the scattered trees and broadleaved woodland habitats. Removal of suitable nesting habitat or disturbance in areas in which they may be present should be taken into account when carrying out works on Site during the nesting bird season (March – August inclusive).</p> <p>All wild birds are protected by virtue of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and it is an offence to kill, injure or take any wild bird or to intentionally damage or destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird. Breeding birds are therefore important within both a local and national context. There are potential impacts depending on the final design proposals and implementation of any works and these should be considered as part of the development strategy for the Site.</p>
Amphibians	<p>A single large waterbody is located on Site, however due to its size, fish stocks and urban location it is not considered likely to support breeding populations of newt species such as great crested newt (Triturus cristatus). It may however be suitable for more mobile and urban species such as common frog (Rana temporaria) or common toad (Bufo bufo). Parts of the stream which surround the woodland in the northern part of the Site are slow/non-flowing and could hold standing water during spring which could accommodate spawning. There is suitable terrestrial habitat for frogs and toad on Site and within the adjacent residential gardens which surround the Site.</p>	
Reptiles	<p>There are no habitats recorded on Site that are considered suitable to support any UK reptile species.</p>	
Invertebrates	<p>There are no habitats recorded on Site that are considered suitable to support any invertebrate species of ecological concern.</p>	

Small Mammals	<p>The northern part of the Site offers suitable habitat for hedgehogs (Erinaceus europaeus).</p>	<p>The habitats recorded in the northern part of the Site are suitable for West European hedgehog (Erinaceus europaeus). Hedgehogs are listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act and are declining in our countryside. In the absence of mitigation there may be a negative impact on this species as a result of any proposed vegetation removal. Suitable precautions should be put in place to ensure this species is not impacted by the proposals and that suitable habitat enhancements are provided.</p>
---------------	---	---

2.6 Hydrology

Five Rivers Environmental Contracting Ltd were commissioned to undertake a suite of aquatic monitoring to inform the MMP. Their full report can be found in Appendix B, and a summary is provided below. The following limitations of the report should be noted:

- Water quality monitoring based on spot sampling fails to detect and account for temporal variation in pollutant concentrations.
- The in-depth interpretation of the water quality analysis results is outside the scope of this report; it provides a basic commentary on key water quality parameters and compares them against guideline values, standards and targets.
- Wind at the time of the depth profiling survey caused some deviation on the parallel transects

Water Quality

Surface water samples were collected from the centre of the pool by boat, and determinands were analysed by an accredited laboratory.

Determinand	Result	Unit
Calcium, Total as Ca	36.5	mg/l
pH	7.8	pH units
Conductivity- Electrical 20C	275	uS/cm
Alkalinity as CaCO3	81.8	mg/l
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	<0.41	mg/l
Chloride as Cl	17.8	mg/l
Nitrate as N	<0.7	mg/l
Nitrite as N	<0.08	mg/l
Nitrogen, Total as N	0.7	mg/l
Nitrogen, Total Oxidised as N	<0.7	mg/l
Phosphate, Ortho as P	<0.6	mg/l
Phosphorus, Total as P	<0.12	mg/l
Total Organic Carbon TOC (Filtered)	10.4	mg/l
Aluminium, total as Al	12	ug/l

Magnesium, total as Mg	7400	ug/l
Potassium, total as K	4400	ug/l
Active Aluminium	11	ug/l
Chlorophyll a COLD	22.13	ug/l

Key water quality parameters affecting ecosystem functioning of lakes are pH, chlorophyll, phosphorous and nitrogen. A brief analysis of these determinands at Horsehay Pool is presented below:

- The pH recorded at Horsehay Pool during the survey is within the guideline values for mesotrophic, hard and eutrophic lakes.
- The chlorophyll value indicates that Horsehay Pool is currently at the upper end of the scale for a mesotrophic lake. However, this result should be treated with a degree of caution as it was recorded on a single occasion, outside of the peak algal growing season and does not provide true reflection of the annual abundance of phytoplankton in the pool.
- There are high levels of phosphorus present, indicating that there is an increasing locading of phosphorous, potential attributable to the ongoing sewage misconnection issues along the eastern bank of the pool, and the long term effects of a Severn Trent Water pollution incident which occurred in 2015.
- The total nitrogen recorded at Horsehay Pool is below the relevant target, which indicates that there is not an issue with nitrogen loading in the pool.

Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Profiling

DO (% saturation and mg/l) and temperature profiling readings were collected at 1m intervals from the deepest location in the pool.

Depth (m)	Temperature (°C)	Dissolved Oxygen (%)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l)
1	4.5	90.4	11.68
2	4.5	89.6	11.57
3	4.5	88.5	11.40
4	4.5	86.2	11.15

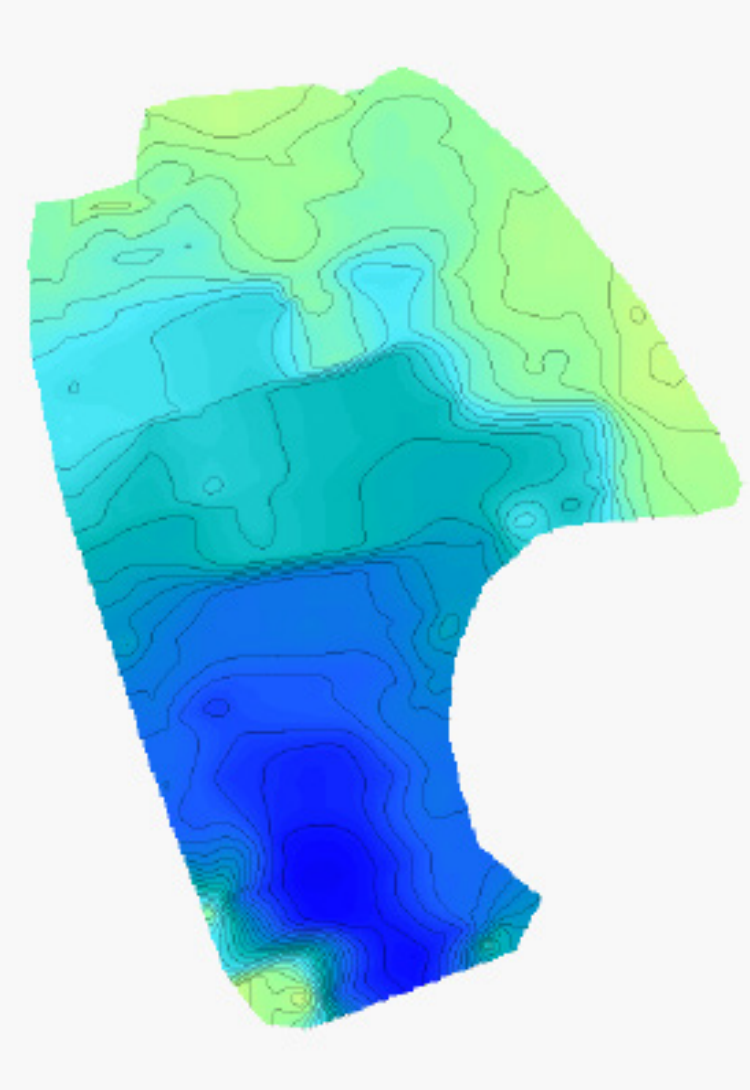
The DO levels meet the High Ecological Status targets set out in the Water Framework Directive. However, these values should be treated with a degree of caution as they were recorded in February when the water is well mixed and has not stratified. In terms of temperature profiling, Horsehay Pool falls into the 'warm water' category as defined by the Water Framework Directive.

Turbidity

The turbidity (suspended solids) of Horsehay Pool was recorded by means of a Secchi disk.

Total Distance 1 (m)	Total Distance 2 (m)	Secchi Depth (m)
0.82	0.78	0.80

The pool has high turbidity due to the presence of suspended material in the water column, such as sediments which have been mobilised due to surface water inputs, fish activity, wind-induced disturbance, and the presence of phytoplankton in the water column.



Bathymetric map

Depth Profiling

The water depth profile of Horsehay Pool was assessed by an echo sounder, and the bathymetric data results are presented below. The map shows that the deepest area of the pool (up to 4m) is located at the southern extent of the pool, with the shallow areas confined to the north, but the inlets and north-east.

General recommendations

In order to get a greater understanding of the water quality regime of Horsehay Pool, we recommended that long-term monitoring is implemented. This could comprise:

- Routine water quality monitoring. Monthly spot sampling from multiple locations around the pool i.e. a targeted water quality investigation to identify sources of pollution.
- Monitoring pollution using continuous monitoring equipment. The provision of continuous water quality measurement can provide a detailed picture of events.
- The installation of a reedbed in areas where there is a problem with misconnections could help with water quality issues. However, aggressive emergent species such as common reed *Phragmites australis* can eventually dominate an area if they are not properly maintained.

2.7 Fishing

As part of Five Rivers' commission, a fisheries sustainability assessment was undertaken, the results of which can be found in Appendix B and a summary below.

Fish stocking

Information regarding fish stocking has been limited, and no data exists in terms of the species composition, density and biomass of the fishery. Anecdotal evidence suggests that a significant population of common bream is present, and the target for most anglers at the venue is common carp. Carp and common bream are both benthic feeders, and are known to be responsible for increased turbidity and reduced macrophyte assemblages when present at high stocking densities. Fish stocking data from December 2018 and February 2019 is presented below, and suggests a healthy balance of coarse species.

Without further information about fish stocking, in terms of fish stocking records and paperwork associated with the introduction of fish to a fishery, it is not possible to provide any detail in terms of the sustainability of the fish population. It is recommended that a fish stock assessment is undertaken to investigate species composition, density and biomass of fish within the pool in order to assist in implementing sustainable management, including additional fish stocking or stock cropping and any necessary habitat improvements. This

would help create a sustainable and resilient mixed fishery providing a resource catering for different angling styles (e.g. match and specimen carp angling).

Common Name	Scientific Name	No. stocked
Common bream	<i>Abramis brama</i>	240
Crucian carp	<i>Carassius carassius</i>	117
Roach	<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>	1080
Tench	<i>Tinca tinca</i>	312
		1749 (total)

Fishing Pegs

Fishing platforms vary in design and construction, with several being in a state of disrepair, potentially posing health and safety issues to anglers and the general public. There is no evidence of provisions being made for disabled users to access and fish the pool, which is recommended under the Equality Act 2010. The following recommendations are provided:

- Provision of disabled access fishing peg, likely to be most suitable at northern end of pool due to sufficient space and flat ground.
- Replacing some of the existing fishing pegs on the west bank with adequately designed fishing pegs. The TAA should be consulted during this process to receive anglers’ input into the designs to ensure the platforms meet their requirements. Formalising the peg locations and providing suitable safe access would help reduce unofficial access and poached areas from appearing around the pool.
- Reducing the number of fishing pegs on the west bank to approximately five or six pegs to reduce potential conflict with residents along Pool View/New Row.
- Installing two or three new fishing pegs along the north and north-east bank of the pool to compensate for pegs being removed from the east bank. This would assist in reducing parked cars in areas which could affect other road users and residents, spreading parked cars over a wider area. However, this needs to be balanced against retaining areas of good wildlife habitat in this area.

Habitat Quality

The pool is lacking in marginal, emergent and submergent aquatic vegetation. The north bank contains a significant area of fallen willows which have continued to grow forming a continuous corridor of up to 10m of dense marginal cover for fish, wildfowl and other aquatic wildlife. The east bank also has areas of overhanging terrestrial vegetation such as bramble which will provide some marginal cover for fish. The water turbidity was high; therefore, the bed of the pool was not visible at any location, even the margins. Subsequently, no appraisal of underwater habitat or predominant substrate was possible. Due to the species composition of the fishery overall and the biomass of each species being unknown, any issues with macrophytes and turbidity cannot be attributed to fish alone, particularly where there are potential issues with surface water inputs and wildfowl.

It is important to balance any amenity improvements, such as redistributing fishing pegs with a need to provide space and good quality habitat for wildlife at the Site. It is therefore recommended that physical habitat improvements within the pool are undertaken to help promote a sustainable fish population and benefit the wider ecology of the area. This could include:

- Installation of refuges and spawning sites i.e. brushwood reefs. This is particularly relevant as compensation for removal of fallen or overhanging trees. Where possible, these features should be relocated, or the material reused within the pool.

- Retaining areas of the dense marginal cover provided by fallen and overhanging trees where possible.
- Opening up other areas of the bank to allow macrophyte growth.
- Planting native plants i.e. marginal, emergent, submergent and free-floating plants.
- Please note we do NOT recommend the installation of floating islands at this location. This is because the existing habitat constitutes adequate provision for fish refuge and spawning and the depth and exposed nature of the pool means that islands will be exposed and liable to drift. In this situation, floating island planting is likely to fail, and regular maintenance is likely to be required.



Fishing peg on eastern bank



Fishing peg on eastern bank



Fishing peg on western bank



Fishing peg on western bank



Fishing peg on western bank

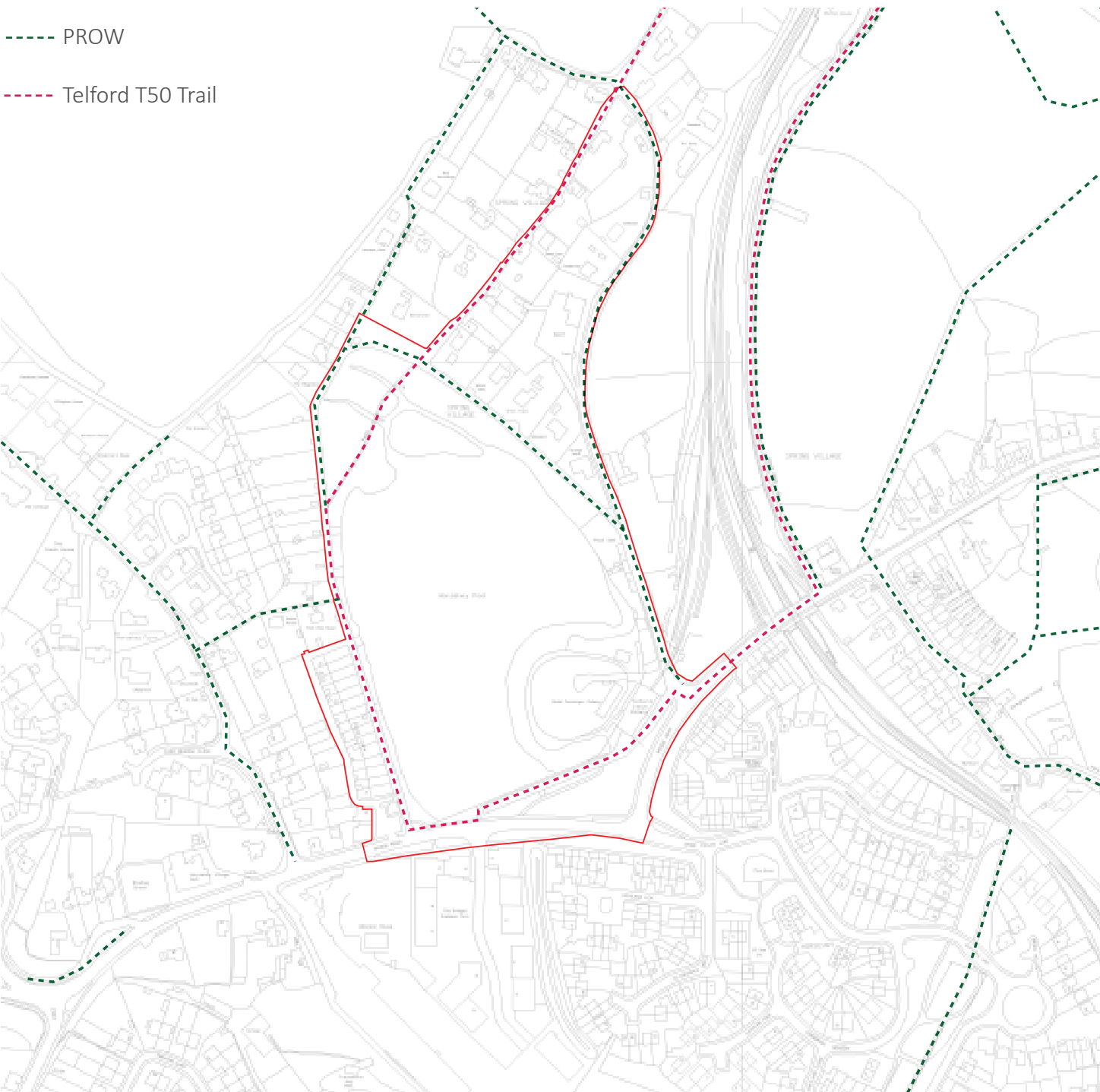


Fishing peg on western bank

2.8 Accessibility

An Accessibility Audit was carried out to assess the Site’s current and potential accessibility and inclusivity, as per requirements outlined in the Equality Act 2010 and Building Standards. Our assessment followed the methodology set out in Fieldfare Trust’s Accessibility Standards: A Good Practice Guide to Disabled People’s Access to the Countryside. The assessment has also been informed by industry best practice, including from the Sensory Trust, National Lottery Heritage Fund and the British Disabled Angling Association.

The Accessibility Audit encompassed a slightly wider area than the Site boundary to cover the approaches to the pool via the public rights of way network, as outlined below.



Access Audit boundary and Public Rights of Way

Scoring system for choosing standards

The scoring system for choosing standards is based on the understanding that acceptable accessibility standards will differ according to the countryside setting. Generally, people will expect lower levels of accessibility in the open countryside compared with a town centre park. The table below has been used to determine which countryside setting is most relevant to Horsehay Pool, based on a number of environmental criteria. The total score will define the minimum access standards which should be used in the Accessibility Audit. Based on the analysis below, Horsehay Pool is defined as an urban fringe and managed landscape (a description of which is provided in the third table).

Feature	Expectation	Criteria	Score	Site Score
Visitor Centre encouraging or helping people enjoy the countryside	More chance of meeting other people. Evidence of management. Less challenge or risk.	Visitor Centre less than 500m away.	10	N/A
		Visitor centre 500- 1000m away.	5	N/A
Parking areas of 20 or more spaces (including lay-bys and road-side car parking)	More chance of meeting people. Less naturalness.	Parking area less than 500m away.	8	N/A
		Parking area 500-1000m away	4	N/A
Parking areas of 20 spaces or less (including lay-bys and road-side parking)	More chance of meeting people. Less naturalness.	Parking area less than 500m away.	6	6
		Parking area 500-1000m away	3	N/A
How the land lies	More naturalness. Greater challenge or risk.	Steepest slope of ground on which land lies is greater than 1:6	-3	N/A
Habitation	More chance of meeting people. Less naturalness.	Groups of at least 100 buildings within 1000m.	8	8
		Groups of at least 25 buildings within 500m.	6	N/A
		Groups of at least 100 buildings within 500-1000m	3	N/A
Character of path	Some naturalness. Management. Need to rely on yourself more.	Path surface or concrete	2	1
		Path surface not constructed (in other words, earth trodden by use or across open ground)	-4	N/A
Public transport point	More chance of meeting other people. Need to rely on yourself more.	Bus stop or station within 1000m	5	5
Total score for Horsehay Pool				20

Scores for countryside settings

Based on the results of the scoring system, Horsehay Pool is defined as urban fringe and managed landscapes.

Score	Standard
More than 20	Urban and formal landscapes
15 to 20	Urban fringe and managed landscapes
10 to 17	Rural and working landscapes
Less than 10	Open country, semi-wild and wild land

Description of countryside settings

The different countryside settings are described below according to different environmental criteria.

Countryside setting	Urban and formal landscapes	Urban fringe and managed landscapes	Rural and working landscapes	Open country, semi-wild and wild land
Management	The opportunities are structured and controlled. There are many facilities, services and programmes.	The opportunities are controlled, though often very informally. There are some facilities, services and programmes.	There will be fewer managed opportunities and few facilities and services. Some programmes may be available.	There will be very few managed opportunities and facilities, services or programmes.
Challenge and risk taking	No risks or challenges exist unless they are created and used by people.	Very few risks or challenges unless they are created and used by people.	Few risks or challenges but people may need some basic skills in self-management in the outdoors.	Many risks and challenges available and people will need outdoor skills.
Naturalness	Mostly man-made environment. Many exotic and well-kept landscapes through they can appear natural.	Modified natural environment though often with resource management to improve natural environments.	Mixture of modified and natural environments often mixed with countryside production activities.	Natural environments with little evidence of humans affecting them.
Feeling involved with other users	High possibility of meeting and getting involved with other people on the site and in activities.	Possibility of meeting and seeing evidence of other people and of getting involved with them.	Possibility of meeting and seeing other people and evidence of them.	Low possibility of meeting other people, and little evidence of them.
Independence and self reliance	All visitors can go alone or in groups. There are support services frequently available.	All visitors can go alone or in groups. There are support services occasionally available.	Most visitors can go alone. Some may need help. There are few support services available immediately.	Only some visitors can go alone. Many will expect to go with friends. Support services are very rarely near at hand.

Accessibility Assessment: Urban fringe and managed landscapes

An Accessibility Assessment of Horsehay Pool was carried out on 1st February 2020, using the criteria and minimum standards for the urban fringe and managed landscape countryside setting. Issues are highlighted on the Accessibility Assessment site plan on page 18.

Criteria	Description	Site Notes
Path surfacing	Sealed surface (e.g. tarmac, concrete, smooth slabs or boardwalk) or hard and firm surface, with very few loose stones and none bigger than 10m.	Mostly tarmac, although in poor/uneven condition in places. Lack of surfaces path in village green area, to the north of the pool.
Path width	Path at least 1200m wide.	Lack of separate footpath, with many areas too narrow for car and pedestrian to pass safely (especially with presence of parked cars). Some stretches of footpath in village green area to the north of the pool <1m wide.
Width restrictions	No sections of path which are less than 1000m wide for more than 300mm along the length of the path (due to gates, barriers etc.). All entrance gates should be wheelchair accessible.	No restrictions or obstructions to path.
Barriers	No stiles or fencing etc. blocking the path.	No barriers blocking the path.
Distance between passing places*	Passing places at least every 100m.	No passing places provided in existing path network.
Distance between resting places**	Resting places at least every 200m. Resting places should accommodate both seating and a space for a wheelchair/pushchair station.	Resting places are not evenly spaced around site, and do not accommodate wheelchair/pushchairs.
Steepness of path	Path no steeper than 1:12.	Path is mostly flat.
Height rise on ramps between landings	Height rise of less than 850mm between landings.	No ramps.
Cross slope of path	Cross slope no steeper than 1:45.	No significant cross-slope.
Small steps	No steps higher than 5mm.	Some sections of road do not have a drop kerb, including around chip shop.
Surface breaks	No surface breaks more than 12mm wide measured along the line of the path (e.g. grills, gaps in boards).	Railway tracks and tree roots could present trip hazard in places.
Clear walking tunnel	Path clear of overhanging branches to a width of 1200mm and a height of 2100mm.	Some overhanging bamboo next to bridges in village green area, to the north of the pool.

Signage	Clear and regular signage, located on or next to path, at a height of 1400-1700mm. Consideration should be given to people with visual impairments and learning disabilities, including the use of pictures, font size, colour contrast and braille.	Lack of signage. One wayfinder to the northeast of the pool.
Car parking	Disabled parking within close proximity to the open space, and fully compliant with current disability standards. Spaces clearly signposted, with smooth surfacing and dropped kerbs.	No dedicated disabled car parking.
Colour contrasting	Use of colour contrasting of all entry systems and barriers.	No colour contrast on trip rail in south eastern corner, or road-side bollards.
Seating	Seat heights should be level at 450mm to 520mm high and back heights of seating should be 700mm high above ground. Seating with armrests preferred. Picnic tables should incorporate a wheelchair station.	Most seating does not have surfaced path leading to them. Picnic tables don't incorporate wheelchair station. Two benches next to chip shop don't have back or armrests.
Fishing stations and accessible pool edges	Fully accessible stations should be installed where possible. All edges should have some warning markings, i.e. paint strip or stand barrier.	No pegs are fully accessible.

* Passing places must be on or next to the path, and at least 1500 x 2000mm
** Resting places must be on or next to the path, and at least 1200 x 1500mm



No separation of vehicles and pedestrians



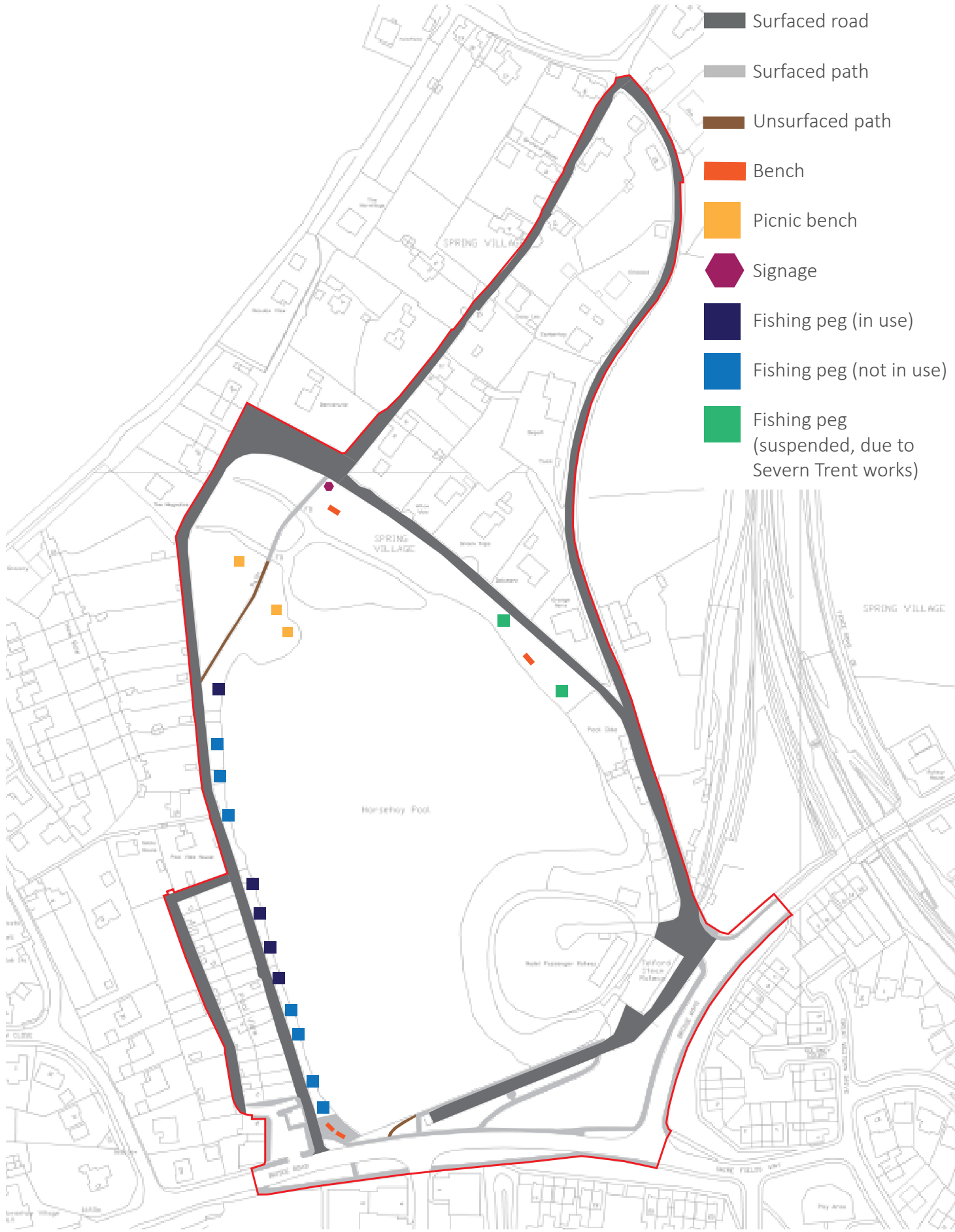
Narrow and illegible path network



The only wayfinder at the site



Lack of surfacing to seating areas



Access Audit

2.9 Current Management and Maintenance

Grounds and cleansing activities are carried out by TWC’s contractor, idverde, and follow TWC's Specification for the Provision of Grounds Maintenance & Street Cleansing Services. The Contractor is responsible for a wide range of duties including litter picking, grass mowing, weeding, and all associated horticultural tasks, as well as removing dog fouling. Idverde practices work from 7am to 5pm Monday to Friday with no presence outside of these times except for emergency call out. The Contractor is required to encourage the involvement of members of the community, ensure equal access, and provide information on and promote parks and open spaces as a community resource.

The Council’s revenue budgets have been significantly reduced over recent years as a result of central government austerity. This has been reflected across all service areas and in particular grounds and cleansing across the borough. There is a small budget for maintenance materials and supplies and building repairs.

Risk Management

There are a number of mechanisms currently in place to ensure a basic duty of care for anyone entering the Site. The Council has a corporate NEBOSH trained safety advisor to advise on all safety matters. Idverde also have their own health and safety advisor.

Documentation is available to staff covering:

- A corporate health and safety policy;
- Operational activities risk assessments;
- COSHH assessments;
- Manual handling assessments;
- Lone working policy;
- Contractors

Footpaths

One footpath passes through the northern area of the Site. This is inspected at least once a year as part of a general site walk over. Highways do regular inspections of the adjacent adopted roads and footpaths, the results of which are recorded on TWC's online system.

Buildings and Structures

Under TWC's responsibilities under the Reservoirs Act 1975, a weekly visual inspection of the dam structure, reservoir inlets and outlets is undertaken, as well as a weekly water level recording. Yearly inspections and reports are undertaken by a Supervising Engineer, and 10 yearly inspections and reports are carried out by an Inspecting Engineer.

Street Cleansing

The street cleansing services carried out by the contractor includes the emptying of bins, removal of graffiti and fly-posting, weed control, clearance of detritus, chewing gum removal, street washing, sign cleaning and the removal of fly-tipped material. All discovered fly tips are subject to an initial investigation by the Contractor and reported to the Authorised Officer.

Grounds maintenance

Grounds maintenance undertaken by the contractor is to be in accordance with Best Industry Practices

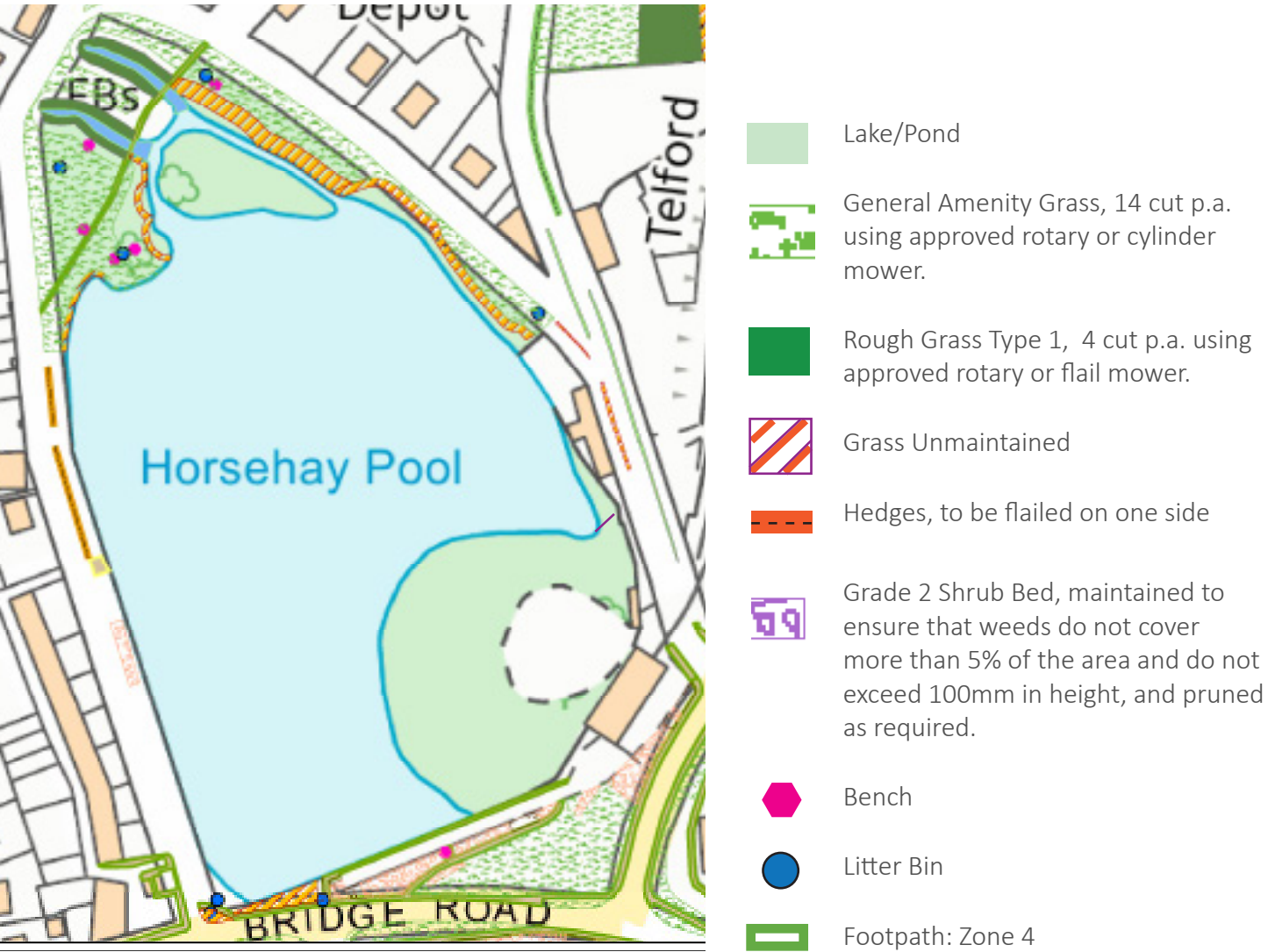
and Green Flag standards, and using environmentally sound methods. At the Site, the works include grass maintenance, hedge cutting, and shrub bed maintenance, as shown in the landscape and ecology maintenance plan figure below. Herbicide is used to treat invasive species and along the roadside kerb edges. Separate to the grounds maintenance contract, TWC undertake an egg oiling programme in the Spring to manage geese numbers at the Site.

Arboriculture

As part of its grounds maintenance services, the Contractor is required to undertake basic ground level maintenance operations of trees, such as epicormics growth removal, young tree formative pruning, and low level crowning lifting. Arboricultural services are provided separately, and are to meet the requirements of TWC's Tree Policy so that the Council's duty of care responsibilities, legal obligations and Bio Security obligations are met. This includes an inspection of individual trees and tree groups every three years.

Contractor Care

All contractors working on behalf of the Council are vetted on method statements, risk assessments, COSHH assessments and staff training. Their accident records over the previous five years reportable under RIDDOR are required, and also any involvement with the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). They are also required to meet the £5 million Employer Liability Insurance as standard.



Landscape and ecology maintenance plan

3.0 Wider Context

3.1 Policy Context

National and local policies and strategies relevant to Horsehay Pool and its future management are summarised below.

National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides overarching planning guidance at the national level, with the principle of sustainable development at its core. The NPPF identifies three dimensions to sustainable development – economic, social and environmental and states the principle of sustainable development “should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision taking”.

With this in mind, Paragraph 17 of the NPPF details 12 core planning principles that underpin the delivery of sustainable development, noting [inter alia] that planning should:

- “always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings;”
- “...conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed or their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations;...” and
- “...contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution. Allocations of land for development should prefer land of lesser environmental value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework;...”
- Section 10 of the NPPF considers the requirement of good design by, inter alia:
 - “...planning positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development, including individual buildings, public and private spaces,,,,” and
 - “...respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials...”.
- Section 12 of the NPPF considers conserving and enhancing the historic environment by, inter alia:
 - “...describing the significance of any heritage assets affected including any contributions made to their setting...” and
 - “...understanding the potential impact of the proposal on their significance...”.

Telford and Wrekin Council Local Plan 2011-2031

- Aim 3: Harness the boroughs natural environment.
 - Make sure that the natural environment is planned, designed and managed to meet site, local and strategic needs.
 - Safeguard and enhance the borough’s biodiversity.
- Aim 4: Promote socially cohesive, healthy and active communities.
 - Enable healthier lifestyles and improve the health and wellbeing of the population.
 - Support the creation of safe and secure environments.
 - Sustain and enhance the vitality of rural settlements.
- Aim 5: Enhance the infrastructure for improved access and communication.
 - Encourage and help enable greater access by non-vehicular means to local green space, services and locations of employment.

- Aim 6: Value the cultural and heritage assets.
 - Achieve high quality urban design which responds to local context and provides opportunities for innovation.
 - Safeguard the character and setting of the borough’s built and natural heritage.
 - Protect and enhance the borough’s local distinctiveness.
- Green Guarantee – the Council will protect over 150 Green Guarantee spaces within Council ownership from development. The Green Guarantee reflects the Council’s commitment to the provision of locally accessible green spaces and to meeting the needs of local communities.
- Policy NE1: Biodiversity and Geodiversity.
 - Biodiversity and geodiversity assets will be protected, maintained and enhanced.
 - Local Wildlife Sites are non-statutory sites of significant value for the conservation of species and habitats. These sites represent local character and distinctiveness and have an important role to play in meeting local and national targets for biodiversity conservation. Planning applications will not be supported where they would have a harmful impact on a Local Wildlife Site’s features of interest.
- Policy NE2: Trees, hedgerows and woodlands.
 - The Council expects existing trees, hedgerows and woodland with biodiversity value, visual amenity value and landscape value to be retained, protected and appropriately managed. Aged and veteran trees, ancient woodland and important hedgerows will be valued and protected.
- Policy NE3: Existing public open space.
 - The Council will protect, maintain and enhance the provision of formal and informal sports and recreation facilities and public open space, including locally important incidental open spaces, throughout the borough.
- Policy NE6: Green Network.
 - The Green Network emerged from the original Landscape Masterplanning of Telford by the Telford Development Commission.
 - The Council will protect, maintain, enhance and, where possible, extend the Green Network.
- Policy BE1: Design criteria
 - Respect and respond positively to its context and enhances the quality of the built and natural environment.
 - Demonstrate an integrated design approach from the outset combining layout, building form and design, landscape, green infrastructure, surface water management, access and parking.
 - Respects the landscape setting and topography.
 - Preserves and reinforces historic street patterns, layouts, traditional frontages and boundary treatments.
 - Maintains and exploits important landmarks, gateways, views to and from the site and respects or enhances the quality of the skyline.
 - Promotes good links through the site and to the surrounding area for all users.
 - Produces a secure environment which is legible, safe, attractive and convenient through the design and orientation of buildings, the integrated provision of hard external spaces, drainage, landscaping, open space and parking.
 - Produces an environment which facilitates and encourages healthy living.
 - Demonstrate that sufficient investigation has been undertaken to ascertain the type and extent of any land contamination and land instability issue.
 - Demonstrate that there is no significant adverse impact on nearby properties by noise, dust, odour or light pollution or that new development does not prejudice or undermine existing surrounding uses.

- Policy BE4: Listed buildings
 - The Council will have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.
- Policy BE5: Conservation Areas
 - The Council will support development in conservation areas where it will preserve or enhance its character and appearance. Development will not be supported where:
 - It would prejudice the essential features of the conservation area, the relationship or appearance between buildings, the arrangement of open areas and their enclosure, grain, or significant natural or heritage features.
 - The development would not do justice to the setting and surroundings of a conservation area or would impair the views of the area.
- Policy BE6: Buildings of local interest
 - The Council will seek to preserve buildings of local interest and will encourage their full and appropriate use. The Council will not support development which:
 - Would have an adverse impact up on the character, form and fabric of a building of local interest or would remove or mask major features of interest.
 - Would have a detrimental impact on the setting of the building or damage traditional boundary treatments, flood space materials or other features.
- Policy BE7: Parks and gardens of historic interest
 - The Council will make sure that the borough’s historic parks and gardens, their associated features and settings are preserved and enhanced.
 - Resist any development which would adversely affect their special historic interest or result in the loss of, or damage to, their form and features.
 - Seek to conserve their landscape and architectural features.
 - Resist development which would impair the longer views of these sites and their wider landscape setting.
 - Encourage the restoration of original layout and features where this is appropriate and based upon a thorough research and understanding of the historical form.

Green Infrastructure Framework: Evidence and Analysis Document 2012

- To provide an overarching framework for the planning, design and management of strategic and local green infrastructure in the borough.
- To help co-ordinate strategic/regional cross boundary green infrastructure areas.
- To assist the borough in responding to the challenges of a changing environment.
- To maximise the benefits of green infrastructure in both rural and urban environments.
- To enable the planning and design of the built and natural environment to be approached in a joined up and holistic way
- To help achieve sustainable development.
- To improve the contribution of green infrastructure investment.
- To embed a good understanding of green infrastructure and what it can do within the council.
- To be able to assess and measure the role and contribution of green infrastructure in a more structure and objective way.
- To apply green infrastructure in a more structured and objective way.
- To help secure funding for the Green Infrastructure Framework actions including mechanisms to resource

the long term management of both existing and new green infrastructure.

- To establish criteria which recognises the functions and value of green infrastructure at a strategic level in order to prioritise sites which are most vulnerable or in need of immediate action.
- To establish a governance model for monitoring and reporting on green infrastructure linked to corporate annual reporting and performance management.
- To ensure the council can lead by example in promoting the benefits of green infrastructure.
- To ensure efficient and effective delivery of the framework through partnership meeting.

Horsehay & Spring Village Conservation Area: Appraisal and Management Plan

- Designated in 1999, due to its historic importance linked to the industrial revolution links to this area which has given heritage values to the settlement.
- The leafy, soft landscaping around the pool creates natural pockets of enclosure and some views across the pool. Accumulative loss of trees and vegetation around the Pool would dramatically impact the scenery of the Conservation Area and the views and visual character of ‘centre piece’ that the pool plays in the area.
- The positioning of Old and New Row adjacent to one another and directly opposite the pool, is a pivotal visual feature of Horsehay. These listed buildings and the Horsehay Pool itself are directly linked to the historical development of the Conservation Area can be viewed from various angles walking around the pool and views should not be obscured.
- The pool itself is also a key viewpoint of the Conservation Area which is an example of how heritage can be managed and change with its industrial origins now extinct and a new current use of angling. To the north of the pool is a small landscaped area which contributes greatly to the village feel of the Conservation Area with paths and a small bridge which is designated as Green Network in the Local Plan.
- Horsehay Pool creates an attractive approach to the main residential core of the Conservation Area, however has been compromised by unsympathetic development including a car park. Opportunities should be sought to improve this space and address this corner and gateway site as well as the adjoining spaces.
- Due to unclear responsibilities between stakeholders (owners and leaseholders) around the pool, there is a distinct lack of maintenance around the pool bank including damaged and rotten pegs, signage which could result in overall harm to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. Equally, loss of trees and any inappropriate works could have the same consequences. Trees surrounding the pool have been subjected to tree surgery operations including pollarding which primarily reduces their height as part of a cyclical management regime. The Local Authority under legislation is not required to serve notice upon itself for these works. However, a more cohesive approach to management of the pool and stakeholders is needed.
- There are no pending general development pressures to the Conservation Area – the Green Network designation constrains development within these areas which supports the semi-rural character of the area.
- General development recommendations:
 - Encourage and support the enhancement of landmark and gateway sites.
 - Retain rural approach to public realm development.
 - Management Plan for Horsehay Pool.

3.2 Community Context

Demographic profile

The Site lies within the Horsehay and Lightmoor Ward. The ward population was 4,292 in 2011, an increase of 52.5% since the previous census (2011), and 6.3% of residents are from a BME background (compared with 10.6% borough-wide). The ward’s residents are younger than the borough average (23.3% aged 0-15 and 33.9% aged 25-44).

Deprivation and Crime

There are low levels of deprivation, with the southern area in the 30-40% least deprived and the northern in the 20-30% least deprived. Rates of crime and antisocial behaviour in the ward are below borough figures for all categories apart from burglaries at 11.2 per 1,000 population (compared with 8.7 borough-wide).

Satisfaction levels

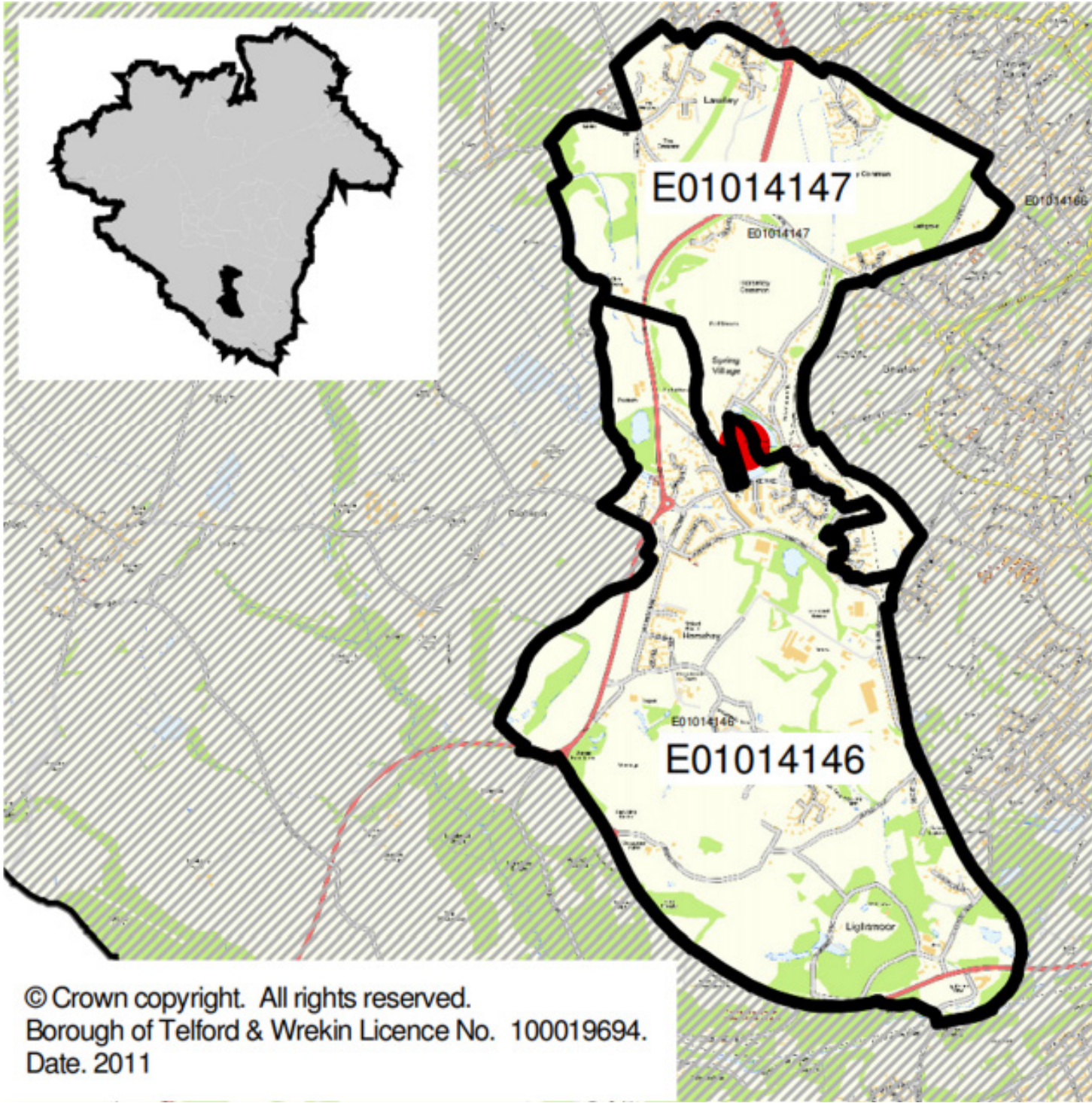
Satisfaction levels in the ward are higher than average across four of the five measures, but rank in the lowest ward scores for the percentage of people who agree that their area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together (62%, compared with 75% borough-wide).

Health

The Telford and Wrekin Population Profile 2017 (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) presents the following data about health and disability within the ward:

Health indicator	Horsehay and Lightmoor Ward	Telford and Wrekin Borough
Self-reported health:		
Very good or good health	84.8%	80.2%
Bad or very bad health	4.8%	6.2%
Life expectancy:		
Male	78.9 years	78.3 years
Female	79.9 years	81.8 years
Children with a long term health problem or disability that limits their daily activities.	24.2%	18.6%
Adults (aged 16-64) with a long term health problem that limits their daily activities.	14.5%	18.6%
Older people (aged 65 and over) with a long term health problem that limits their daily activities.	14.5%	18.6%

According to the Ward Health profile (2014), the rate of emergency hospital admissions for all causes, stroke and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is significantly worse than the England average. The admission rate for strokes is the third worst in the Borough.



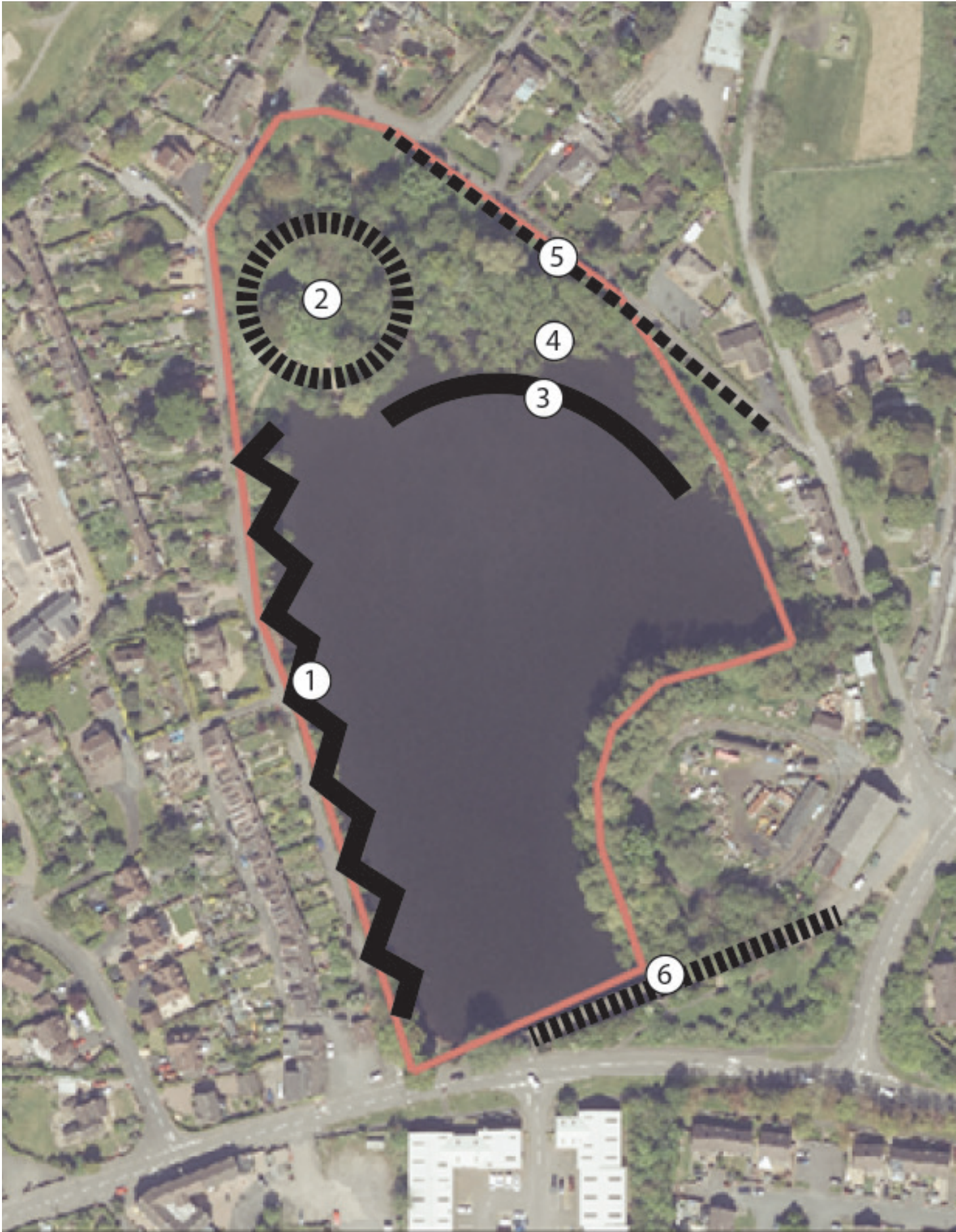
Horsehay and Lightmoor Ward map

3.3 Stakeholders

As part of our site analysis, workshops and site walk-arounds were carried out with the following stakeholder groups. Notes from these meetings are presented in the following pages.

- Telford Angling Association
- Friends of Horsehay Pool and Environs
- Telford Steam Railway Trust
- Council Members and Officers

Area/ Feature/ Issue	Discussion
Lease/licence	Currently have 3 year licence, which requires renewal. Would prefer 10 year lease, in order to make them eligible for external funding.
Membership	Summer is busiest season. Aspire to attract younger members, and make angling more accessible for all. Potential to partner with local care homes. Two bailiffs inspect the pool regularly, plus additional visits from TAA secretary. TWC don't consider angling a sport, and this limits outreach potential. Would like notice board(s) for posting information.
Stocking	Jan 2019 TAA spent approx. £7,500 on fish stock. Previously shared this information with TWC. West side of pool best for fishing because it is deep (no. 1 on map). Shallower water on north and east sides (no. 3 on map) Severn Trent pollution incident (from 2015) affecting water quality and fish (as advised by Wildlife Trust) (no. 4 on map). Severn Trent have committed to sorting the issue by 2025.
Pegs	Currently have 16 pegs. Several pegs no longer in use/inaccessible/in state of disrepair – repair and improvement works subject to updated management plan and licence. Would like to replace existing pegs with recycled plastic pegs, once 10 year lease is in place (so they can apply for funding). Single pegs approx £450 each; disabled double pegs approx. £1,000 each. Would also like to provide eco-toilet (to be funded by grants).
Car parking	Most use disused former Bridge Road for car parking (no. 6 on map), however there isn't always space, and its not suitable for disabled members. Some anglers are approached by local residents about car parking issues. Require allocated disabled car parking space(s). Rocks placed along Pool Side road (presumably by a resident) are a trip hazard, especially for partially sighted, and should be removed (no. 5 on map).
Events and matches	20 matches a year, including charity matches (required as part of licence) Would like to hold an 'Access to Angling' event, like the one at Little Appley, aimed at widening participation. Could hold it around the village green area, to the north of the pool (no.2 on map).
Habitat and vegetation	Floating islands aren't suitable, because the chains that hold down the islands do not allow for changes in water level. As a result, the chains often break and the islands can break up and cause a blockage in the outlet pipes. Dead trees in water are dangerous, and lines get snagged in them. Reed planting good for fish spawning, but ensure that it is away from pegs, and that it doesn't spread too much. TAA should be consulted on any additional planting. Local residents planting inappropriate species. Licence sets out 10m vegetation clearance radius requirement around pegs.



Stakeholder Workshop: Telford Angling Association

Area/ Feature/ Issue	Discussion
Road and car parking	<p>Pool View/New Row historically a rural bridleway; not tarmacked until the 1980s.</p> <p>Cars driving on verges, eroding road edges and grass banks (no. 1 on map).</p> <p>Increasing volume of traffic due to local business and delivery vans.</p> <p>Suggest 20mph speed limit to improve safety.</p> <p>Car parking by anglers has improved in the past year.</p> <p>Some residents have placed rocks to prevent parking on verges- need a unified approach.</p>
Planting	<p>Original 1970s municipal landscaping has either died back or become too overgrown (especially the crack willows and bamboo). Consider removing and replacing with more appropriate planting.</p> <p>Suggest reed planting to improve habitat, and deter geese from using surrounding land.</p> <p>Some residents have adopted parts of bank and maintain it- requires coordinated approach; Friends Group could potentially adopt some areas.</p> <p>Would prefer grass to be kept long to maintain ‘wild’ character and also to deter geese.</p>
Angling	<p>Inappropriate number of pegs within too close proximity to houses along Pool View/New Row. Potentially dangerous due to closeness of road and pedestrians. (no. 2 on map)</p> <p>Vegetation management by anglers is sometimes excessive – visual impact and contributes to bank erosion.</p> <p>More appropriate to have angling along northern and eastern edges, where there’s more space and its further away from houses. (no. 3 on map)</p>
Village Green	<p>Occasionally used for community events, but limited by presence of geese in summer.</p> <p>Sufficient number of picnic benches, but require repositioning and cleaning.</p> <p>No formal play provision required – not suitable for site, plus other play areas nearby.</p> <p>Streams have dried up recently – issue currently being investigated (no. 4 on map)</p> <p>Pocket Park funding awarded for proposals. First steps include commissioning a topographic survey, and laying the surfaced path.</p>
Signage and infrastructure	<p>Provide interpretation to inform visitors about the history of the area. One next to gabion wall, and the other at village green? (no. 5 on map). Previous conversations with Phoebe at TWC. Could also include community notice board.</p> <p>Style of bins are inappropriate for conservation area.</p> <p>Excessive street lighting – could they be replaced with low level pedestrian lighting?</p>
Habitat management and ecology	<p>Manage vegetation on island and remove dead and diseased trees overhanging channel.</p> <p>Dredge channel so it is more distinct. Open up views to pool from eastern side. (no. 6 on map).</p> <p>Japanese knotweed previously present on site.</p> <p>Badger sett on TSR land.</p> <p>Previously there used to be lots of frogs.</p>
Visitors and stakeholders	<p>Lawley Running Group use the site every week</p> <p>My Options disabled group host regular visits.</p>

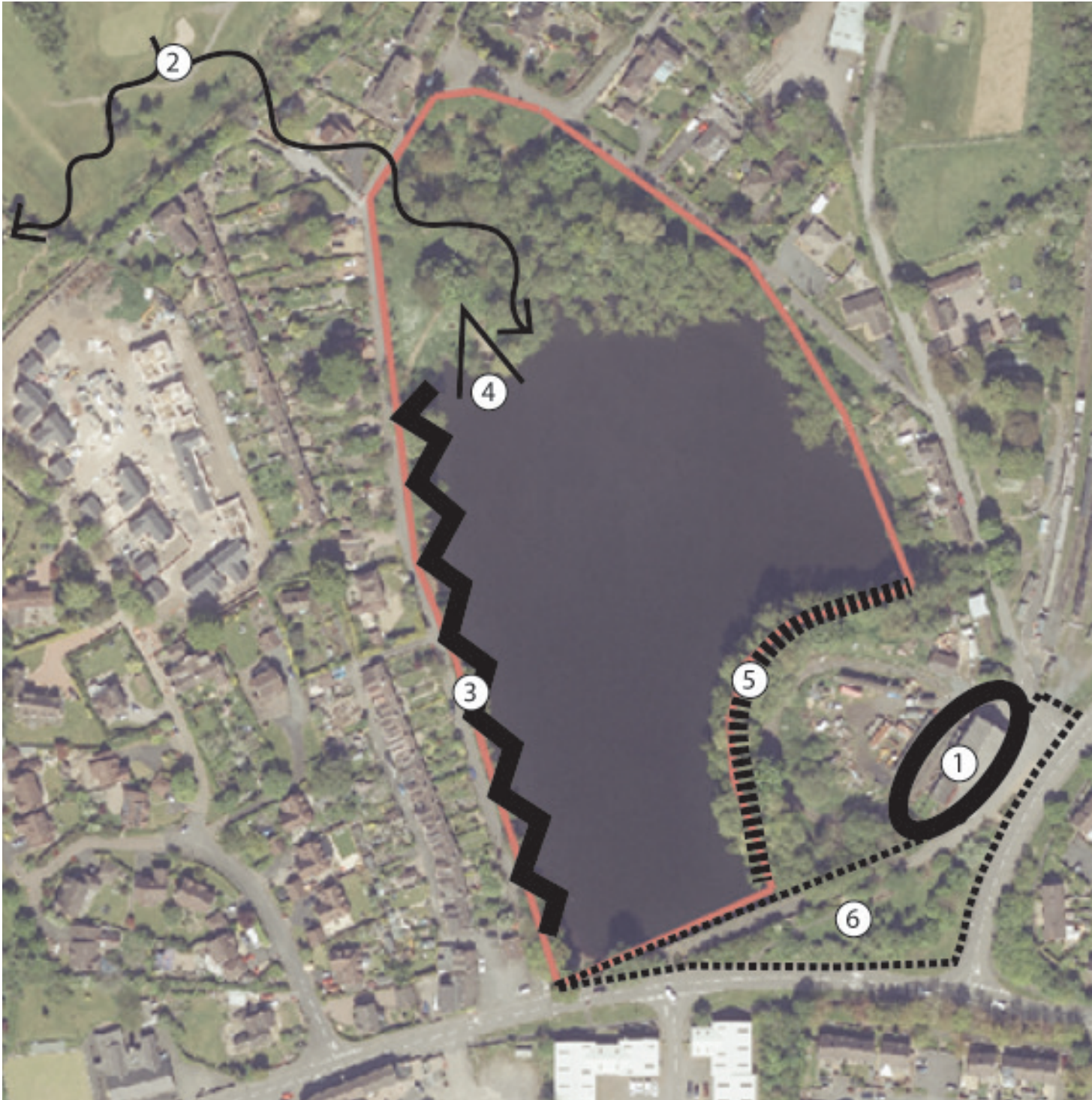
Bridge Road and gateway area	<p>Retain walls – part of history of site (no. 7 on map)</p> <p>Do not overdevelop. Consider how to incorporate car parking.</p> <p>Landscape area around outflow.</p> <p>Plant up gabion wall.</p>
Management and operation	<p>Need a clear communication channel with TWC so Friends Group and local residents can be informed about management and maintenance actions.</p> <p>No policy on water safety currently exists.</p> <p>Would prefer long term management plan and masterplan which can be implemented as and when funding becomes available.</p> <p>Friends Group carry out regular litter picks – most litter collects in south eastern corner of pool (no. 8 on map)</p> <p>Previously spoken to chip shop about replacing polystyrene packaging with biodegradable wooden alternatives.</p> <p>Severn Trent works along Pool Side due to take place in Sept 2020.</p>



Stakeholder Workshop: Friends of Horsehay Pool

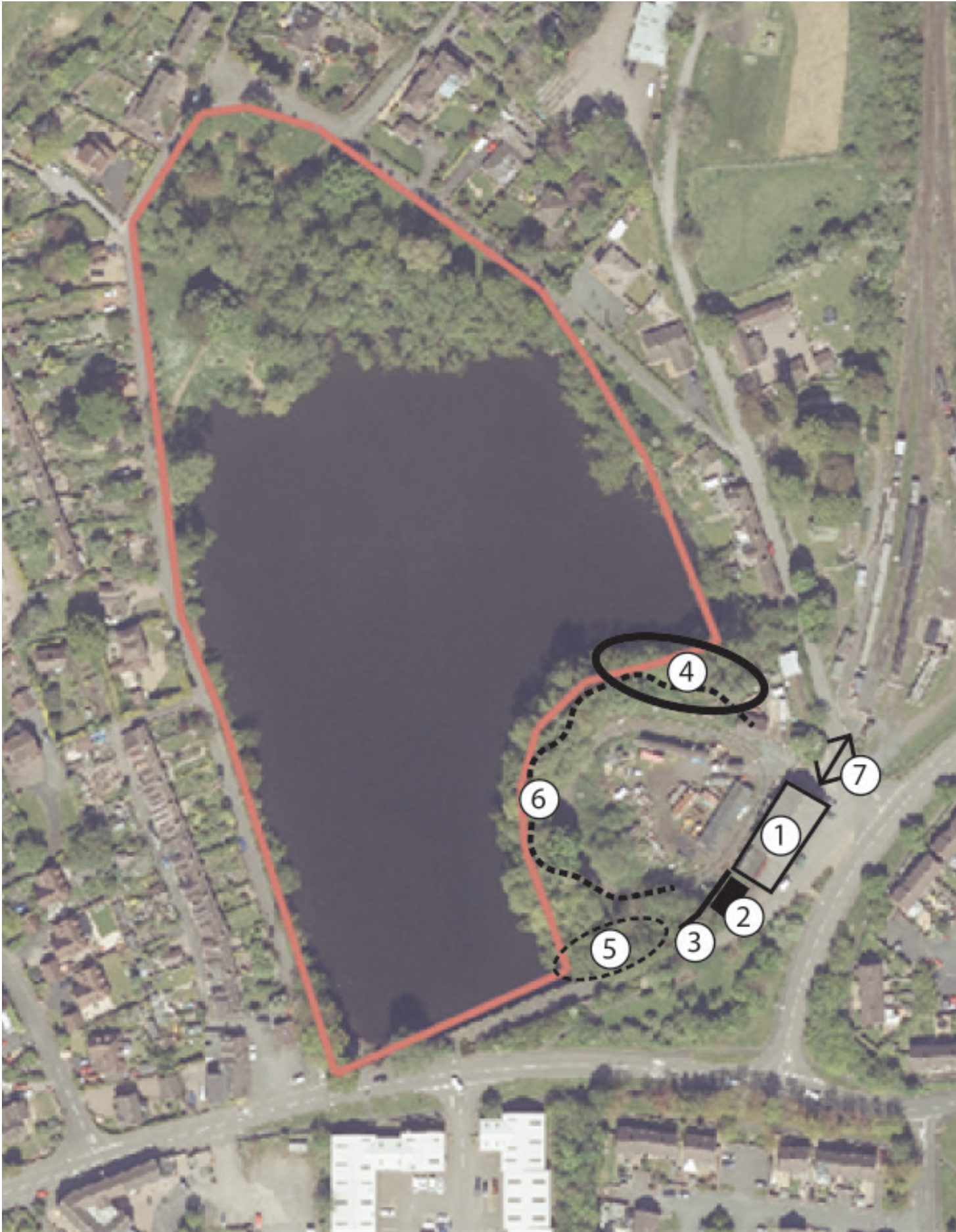
Area/ Feature/ Issue	Discussion
Conservation Area and heritage	Important to retain setting and views of Conservation Area. Conflict between green space/landscape and car parking. Old Loco Shed requires maintenance. Need to clear surroundings (no.1 on map).
Quality of water	Quality of water impacts ecology value Severn Trent sewage issue – important to coordinate any future works with the Management and Maintenance Plan.
Level of water	Water level much lower than it should be. Water being diverted from golf course to Moreton Coppice (causing localised flooding issues) (no. 2 on map) Potential to investigate as part of a separate commission.
Angling	Unsuitable materials and design of fishing pegs – slippery and not sensitive to Conservation Area setting. Too many pegs on western boundary, close to houses and road (no. 3 on map). Suggest relocating to northern/eastern banks. Conflicts over car parking between residents and anglers.
Cars	Erosion of road edge due to cars driving/parking on verges. Potential to incorporate car parking spaces on Village Green and along Pool View. Red Kite/ TWC to plot which properties have off-road parking, in order to determine capacity.
Seating	Unsuitable location of picnic benches on Village Green, under the shade of trees. Resident request for a memorial bench – to be incorporated within masterplan.
Options (local disability group)	Options make site furniture – including notice boards and benches (two next to the chip shop) Potential to commission Options for further site infrastructure as part of masterplan.
Signage	Parish Council could have a notice board at the site. Removing warning/no fishing signs. Interpretation boards to facilitate education, but need to be maintained properly.
Anti-social behaviour	ASB has been an issue around the railway and along Bridge Road. But generally, the site does not suffer from ASB
Canada geese	How can we deter the geese, especially in the summer? Need to prevent them from accessing Village Green area. (no. 4 on map)
Habitats and landscaping	Discussion around suitability of wild versus formal landscaping. Need to clear some trees around the Steam Railway Trust land, to open up views. (no. 5 on map) Clear trees which have fallen into pool, whilst retaining habitats.

Communication with stakeholders	Previously struggled to be informed about works before they happen. Agreed it was important to improve communication channels between council and residents moving forward. Need to ensure that consultation is representative, and not just one demographic.
Bridge Road	Reviewed Bridge Road proposals with Kathy and David. Identified as an area with high potential. (no. 6 on map) Issues discussed included: car parking and vehicle use, views, walls, community use, vegetation management and landscaping, paths, and funding.



Stakeholder Workshop: Council Members

Area/ Feature/ Issue	Discussion
Land ownership	TSR owns the island and halfway into the highway. The rest of the land is on a 99 year lease. No angling permitted on TSR land.
Old Loco Shed and environs	Shed needs major repair works, but subject to funding priorities. Queried whether they could drain grey water from shed into pool when they add new guttering. Could incorporate an extension to the building and reinstation of old track. (no. 1 on map) Seeking to remove shipping container and other parts from around the back of the shed (owned by previous TSR member) (no. 2 on map) Section of wall was damaged – looking to repair, and potentially build slightly higher than currently to improve security (no. 3 on map)
Trees and vegetation management	Undertaking tree surgery works, especially on northern side, due to proximity of trees to houses on Pool View (no. 4 on map) Other trees will be retained unless deemed dangerous.
Anti-social behaviour	Experienced trespassers and vandalism in the past. Improving security around the site, including high fencing. Fly-tipping over wall is a major issue (no. 5 on map)
Landscape proposals	Looking to install new paths and boardwalks through woodland, near water for use by TSR visitors and to focus on local wildlife. Local company developing proposals. (no. 6 on map) Re-paving much of the visitor area, and converting into a ‘street scene’ style.
Road crossing	Intending to install new crossing at the same time as the Severn Trent works. Paving will extend from gate to track, and then tarmac beyond. (no. 7 on map)



Stakeholder Workshop: Telford Steam Railway Trust

4.0 Recent and Planned Improvements

4.1 Highways improvement scheme

There are plans underway to improve a section of the unadopted road in Spring Village, outlined in dashed lines in the below map. Whilst this is not within the site boundary, it is an important access route to Horsehay Pool, and was included within the Access Audit.

The latest highway condition survey revealed that this section has been assessed as Grade 5, which is the worst possible condition grade, with several cracking and crazing defects occurring throughout, alongside the large volume of potholes across the area. In 2016, a Ward Member requested cost estimates to repair the section of the road. Micro-surfacing overlay was priced at approximately £9,000 and tarmac overlay £15-20,000.

As the road is unadopted, TWC’s Highways are unable to fund these repairs, so alternative funding is required. Local Ward Members have contributed £2,000, and Rights of Way funding could contribute an additional £3,000. Dawley Hamlets Parish Council have not committed any funds out of concerns that it would encourage this route being used as a rat run, which would be especially dangerous past the children’s play area. If speed cushions were included in the scheme, it would add further costs of £2-3,000.

Local Ward Members are developing an alternative plan to use the £2,000 member funding to purchase bagged tarmac so residents can carry out the repairs themselves. These works would fill in all potholes and give a consistent surface throughout which would stop further degradation of the surface and give an expected lifespan of 5-10 years. A potential side effect of this treatment could be surface water ponding as there is not adequate drainage on site. If these repair works were undertaken, there would not be a commitment from TWC to maintain to an adoptable standard or to adopt this road due to other statutory requirements for adopted roads such as drainage and street lighting. Consequently, it would be preferable if additional funding could be found to carry out the full maintenance works and allow for potential TWC adoption in the future.



Highway Conditions Survey

4.2 Dam

The ten year report (Stillwater Associates Ltd, September 2016) of the Horsehay Pool Reservoir, as required by Section 10 of the Reservoirs Act 1975, contains a number of recommendations. Firstly, it recommends repairs are carried out to the brick wave wall to prevent further damage, including spalling, loss of individual bricks and cracking, as necessary. In addition, any debris should be removed from the grille over the weir weekly. The report also noted a large tree which was growing near the west end of the dam wall and causing it to bulge towards the reservoir. This tree failed in a storm and caused the dam wall to be breached, leading to repair works beings carried out in 2019. The report also recommends further surveys and studies to be undertaken at the Site, including:

- A new flood study to determine the freeboard during the design and safety check floods;
- The study should also examine the return periods of the floods for a range of flows up to the PMF, that will cause nuisance or damage to properties along Pool View Road, Bridge Road and beyond;
- Levels are taken around the reservoir to ascertain where the water levels would reach beyond the lowest point on the dam if overtopped;
- New drawings of the overflow structure and of the pipework arrangement and any outfall downstream are produced;
- On-site plan should be produced covering actions that would be taken on site in the event of a structrual problem with the dam and should include details of how temporary pumps can be deployed;
- The height of the dam to be confirmed by a survey.



Tree that was removed on west end of wall



Bulging caused by tree, which was later removed



Wall repair works being undertaken 2019-20



Completed section of repaired wall

Separate to the required structural works, Local Parish and Ward Councillors requested TWC to review the feasibility of replacing the existing brick parapet with a new post and rail arrangement to improve the visibility of the pool. CH2M carried out a general visual inspection of the wall, and prepared a brief feasibility study for the consideration of TWC. Any new post and rail parapet would have to provide sufficient vehicle containment capacity and meet current standards. Subject to further structural investigations, a new reinforced concrete edge beam might be required to enable the new parapet to be mounted. CH2M advises that this option would not only be costly, but could also be unsuitable for the Conservation Area setting. Alternatively, if the road was restricted to non-vehicular traffic, only pedestrian railings would be required and this may reduce the scale of possible strengthening works and foundation design. The report recommends the following next steps to progress the study to the next stage:

- Carry out principal inspection of retaining wall (within touching distance- specialist access equipment required and access onto private land at Telford Steam Railway Trust)
- Carry out intrusive site investigation works to confirm construction details;
- Review maintenance works required; and
- Meet local councillors to discuss potential options and carry out further feasibility works.

4.3 Telford Steam Railway Trust

Telford Steam Railway Trust have a number of repair and enhancement initiatives in the pipeline, although all are subject to funding.

Old Loco Shed and environs

The Shed needs major structural repair works to ensure its long-term survival. The Trust are also considering an extension to the building, and reinstating a section of the former track along the old Bridge Road. There is also a commitment to clearing the environs around the back of the Shed, including the shipping container. As part of these external works, they will also seek to rebuild the section of damaged dam wall, and potentially build slightly higher than the existing height to improve security. However, further scoping work needs to be carried out to understand the feasibility of these proposed works, as the land ownership of the area is unclear. Furthermore, as it is located within the Conservation Area, permission will need to be granted before any works which might alter the character of the historic area commence.

Landscape

The Trust are looking to install new paths and boardwalks through the woodland, near the water edge for use by TSR visitors. They are also undertaking a continuous programme of tree surgery works, to remove any potentially dangerous trees, including the large copse of willow trees which are prone to cracking and falling. Improvement works to the visitor area are also underway, with new paving being laid across much of the entrance with the intention to create a ‘street scene’ style. The paving will extend from the entrance gate to the track leading to the Old Loco Shed, and a new road crossing installed, once the Severn Trent works have commenced.

4.4 Severn Trent

xxx

4.5 Pocket Parks

The Friends of Horsehay and Environs Group was set up in 2018 to restore the area. In 2019, the Friends



Pocket Parks proposal, Friends of Horsehay Pool and Environs

Group drew up plans for the north of the Site to inform an application to the Pocket Parks scheme. Their grant application was successful, and they have a total of £21,500 secured for the project (including £4,500 donation from Dawley Hamlets Parish Council). The project was to take place between March and July 2020, but this has been delayed due to the outbreak of Covid-19. The proposals include the following features:

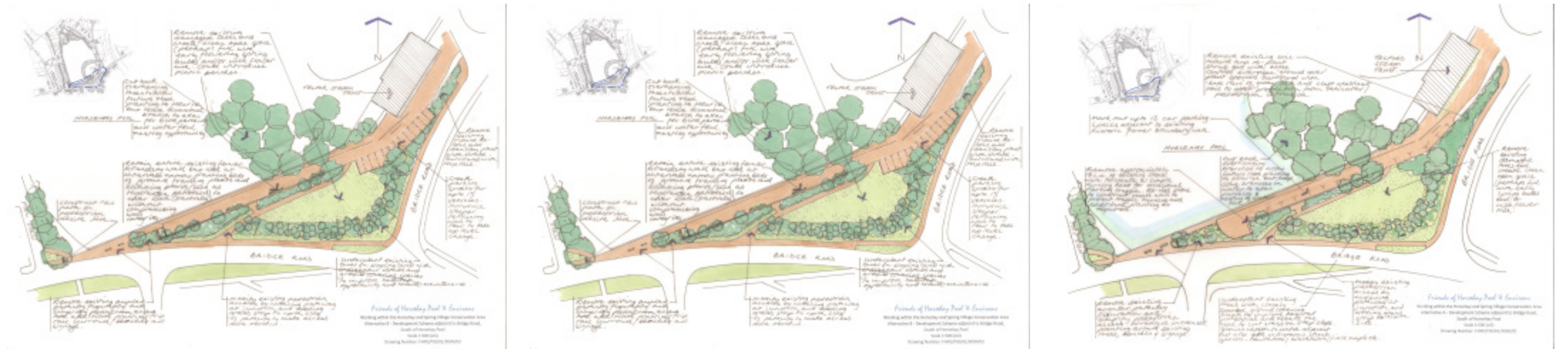
- A new network of surfaced footpaths and boardwalks;
- Creation of a small wildlife pond;
- Habitat enhancement of streams and wetland areas;
- Bulb and wildflower planting;
- New seating;
- Bird and bat boxes; and
- Interpretation boards.

4.6 Bridge Road

xxx

4.7 Ecology Management Plan

A draft Ecology Management Plan (2020- 2025) was prepared in November 2019. The aim of the Plan is



the sympathetic ecological restoration of the historic furnace pool and the appropriate management and enhancement of adjacent habitats within the Horsehay and Spring Village Conservation Area. TWC along with local volunteers and partner organisations will manage the Site to:

- Restore and enhance the wetland habitats to the north of the Site (the ‘island’ and its two ‘inflows’);
- Maintain and enhance the grassland areas to the north and north east of the Site;
- To appropriately manage the herbaceous/ornamental planting, and woodland/trees; and
- Promote the Site as a resource for local people and recognise the ecological and historical value of the Site.

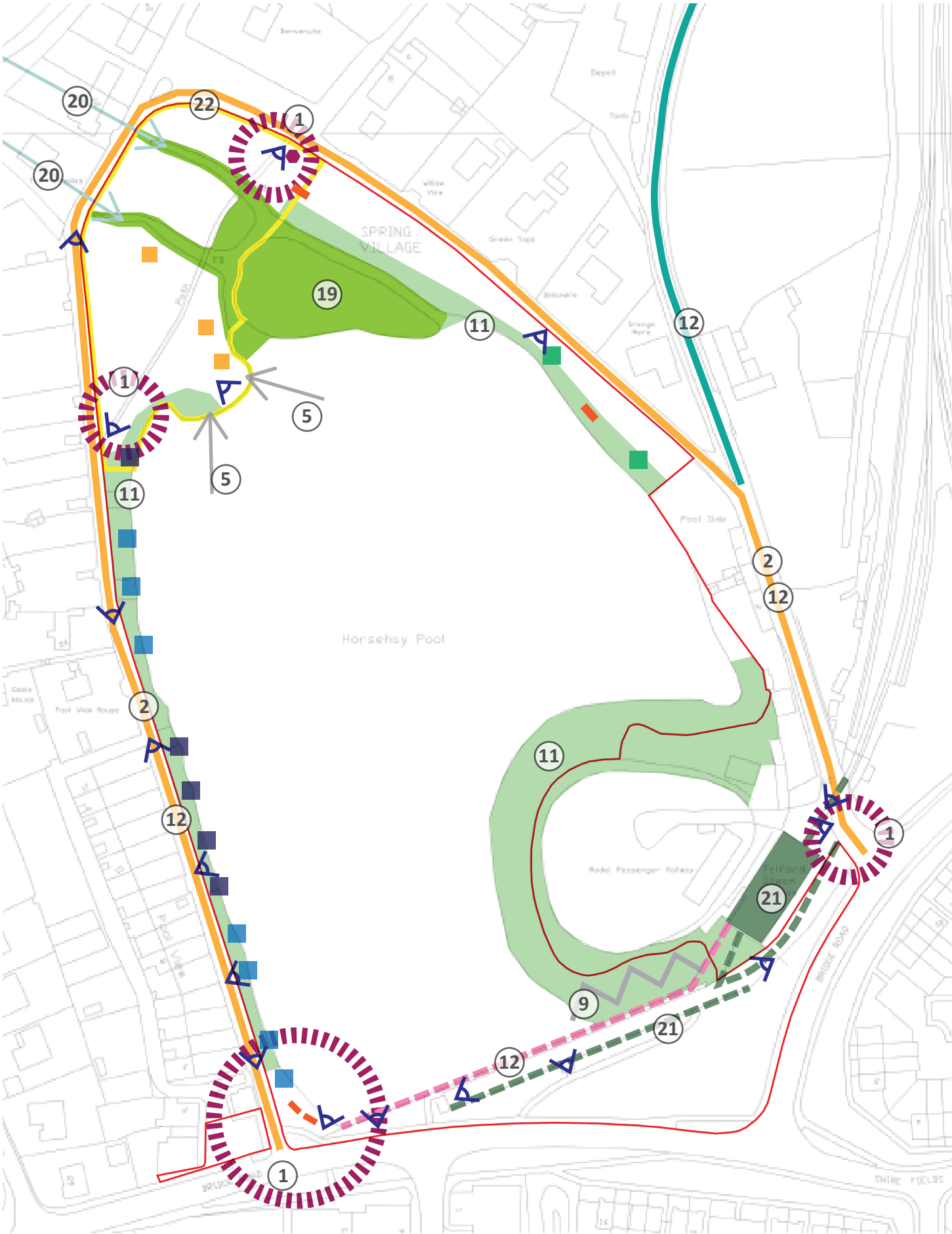
5.0 Analysis and Evaluation

In order to provide a framework for an overall analysis of the Site, the criteria of the Green Flag Award has been used. The award is a national quality standard for parks and green spaces and is an aspiration of the Authority to achieve.

In order to establish a baseline as to when the Site currently stands with regards to the likelihood of achieving a Green Flag Award, a mock Green Flag Assessment was carried out in March 2020, using the following categories. Each criteria is marked out of 10, with 1 being very poor and 10 being exceptional.

- **A welcome place**- the extent to which the site invites and draws people into it.
- **Healthy, safe and secure** - whether the users’ needs are provided for in a safe and secure way.
- **Clean and well maintained**- issues of waste management and site maintenance.
- **Environmental management**- how the management of the site takes into consideration issues of sustainability and climate change.
- **Biodiversity, landscape and heritage**- the management and conservation of natural features, wildlife and flora, landscape features and heritage assets.
- **Community involvement** - the extent to which the managing organisation involves members of the community in the site.
- **Marketing**- the ways that managers understand the key benefits of the site and how they are using this information to promote it appropriately.
- **Management**- how well the MMP is being implemented on site.

A Site Analysis plan is provided opposite, where the labelled numbers relate to the number given to the criteria in the table below.



Site Analysis

Criteria	Score	Findings	Recommendations
A Welcoming Place			
1. Welcoming	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sense of arrival or welcome. The corner of Bridge Road and Pool View acts as the gateway to the Horsehay and Spring Village Conservation Area, but views and visitor experience are compromised by inappropriate external works and landscaping. 	<p>R1.1- Improve gateway area on Bridge Road/ Pool View to provide a sense of arrival to the Conservation Area.</p> <p>R1.2- Welcome signage to improve identity and visitor understanding of the Horsehay Pool.</p> <p>R1.3- Improve other entrances around the Site, including from Spring Village (connecting with T50 trail).</p>
2. Good and safe access	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public open access throughout the Site. Lack of separate footpath along roads, with many areas too narrow for cars and pedestrians to pass safely. Lack of car parking for visitors and anglers. 	<p>R2.1- Install footpaths where feasible to separate road and pedestrian traffic.</p> <p>R2.2- Consider introducing traffic control measures along surrounding roads.</p> <p>R2.3- Provide car parking on old Bridge Road.</p>
3. Signage	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of signage at entrances mean visitors cannot orientate themselves. Lack of directional signage, including connections with surrounding Public Rights of Way network. Existing signage consists mainly of warning signs. These are inappropriate in number and position, and detract from the visual aspects and landscape character of the Site. 	<p>R3.1- Install welcome interpretive signage at all entrances to orientate people and facilitate education.</p> <p>R3.2- Install directional finger posts to direct visitors.</p> <p>R3.3- Install signs to indicate wheelchair accessible routes.</p> <p>R3.4- Signs should have bold and clear text, with some raised text information to be included to benefit users with visual impairments.</p> <p>R3.5- Safety notices should be consolidated.</p>
4. Equal access for all	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No disabled fishing facility. No disabled car parking. Lack of surfaced path in village green area. Topography is mostly flat around the site. Some sections of road do not have a drop kerb, including around chip shop. Most seating does not have a surfaced path leading to them. Picnic tables don't incorporate wheelchair station. 	<p>R4.1- Install fully accessible fishing pegs.</p> <p>R4.2- Provide disabled car parking where appropriate.</p> <p>R4.3- Provide an all-access surfaced circular route around the site.</p> <p>R4.4- Seating to be wheelchair and pushchair accessible.</p>

Healthy, Safe and Secure			
5. Appropriate provision of quality facilities and activities	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation undertaken to understand users' needs and the wider interests in the area. Street furniture in poor condition and inappropriate mixture of styles and designs. Unsuitable positioning of picnic tables in shade of trees. Large number of geese in summer prevents use of village green area. 	<p>R5.1- Replace existing street furniture and standardise design style across the Site.</p> <p>R5.2- Involve My Options group in the design and installation of street furniture.</p> <p>R5.3- Review existing and potential measures to manage geese numbers and access to land, including oiling programme and planting of reeds near access points.</p>
6. Safe equipment and facilities	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No condition survey of the Site's equipment and facilities has been completed. Some fishing pegs are in a dangerous state of disrepair. The positioning of some fishing pegs is unsuitable due to the dangerous proximity to the road and pedestrians. 	<p>R6.1- Carry out regular condition surveys of equipment and facilities at the Site.</p> <p>R6.2- Review position and number of fishing pegs, and replace as necessary.</p>
7. Personal security	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site feels relatively safe due to its open aspect, and passive surveillance by houses. The Council does not have any staff presence on site. The Council works closely with the Police to report all incidents of anti-social behaviour or criminality within the pool, and holds regular meetings to ensure open space remains high on the policing agenda. Street lighting around the Site improves night-time safety. 	
8. Dog fouling	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog fouling is not a major issue around the Site. There are a number of litter bins which take dog waste located around the pool. 	<p>R8.1- Review frequency of bin emptying, especially if number of visitors increase.</p> <p>R8.2- Incorporate advisory dog control notices in signage if deemed necessary.</p>

Clean and Well Maintained			
9. Litter and waste management	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Site is kept relatively litter free. Litter picking is undertaken by park staff and the Friends Group. Flytipping over the eastern end of the dam wall, on Telford Steam Railway Trust land, is an issue. TWC have committed to becoming a 'Plastic Free Community' and to help local businesses be zero carbon by 2030. 	<p>R9.1- Review frequency of litter picks if visitor numbers increase.</p> <p>R9.2- Encourage fish and chip shop to use recyclable/ biodegradable packaging, as part of TWC's climate change and waste policies.</p>
10. Grounds maintenance and horticulture	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grounds maintenance is undertaken by TWC's contractor. Currently mainly consists of grass mowing and hedge trimming. 	<p>R10.1- Ensure sufficient resources are provided if grounds maintenance requirements increase as proposals are implemented.</p>
11. Arboriculture and woodland management	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the banks to the pool are densely vegetated with trees and scrub. There are also scattered trees on the areas of amenity grassland. Trees are surveyed every three years. Number of dead and diseased trees around the Site. Some trees and tree saplings have been left unmanaged and are blocking historic vistas across the pool. 	<p>R11. 1- Remove dead and diseased trees. Leave deadwood for habitat where appropriate.</p> <p>R11.2- Remove trees blocking historic vistas.</p> <p>R11.3- Implement recommendations from tree surveys.</p> <p>R11.4- Develop tree planting strategy to ensure suitable age and species mix across the Site.</p> <p>R11.5- Remove areas of tree regrowth and individual self-set trees within the grassland areas of the Site.</p>
12. Buildings and infrastructure maintenance	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graffiti and vandalism generally not an issue across the Site. Erosion of road edge due to cars driving and parking on verges. Section of unadopted road in Spring Village has been assessed as Grade 5, which is the worst possible condition grade, with several cracking and crazing defects occurring throughout, alongside the large number of potholes across the site. Severn Trent drainage issue currently unresolved. Areas of brick wave wall in state of disrepair. 	<p>R12.1- Graffiti and minor vandalism are to be addressed as a priority and recorded so any trends can be analysed and incorporated into future work plans.</p> <p>R12.2- Work with Severn Trent to implement repair works to drainage.</p> <p>R12.3- Work with Local Ward Members to carry out highways improvement scheme on unadopted road in Spring Village.</p> <p>R12.4- Carry out repairs to dam wall as per engineer recommendations to prevent further damage, including spalling, loss of individual bricks and cracking.</p>

13. Equipment maintenance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No equipment on site. 	
Sustainability			
14. Managing Environment Impact	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All street lighting is LED and is illuminated on photo cells All contractors working on site are expected to have an audited and accredited Environmental System in place to ISO 14001 or equivalent. 	<p>R14.1- Carry out routine water quality monitoring consisting of monthly spot sampling from multiple locations around the pool. This will enable a target water quality investigation to identify sources of pollution. Continuous monitoring equipment can also provide a detailed picture of pollution events.</p> <p>R14.2- Installation of a reedbed in areas where there is a problem with misconnections could help with water quality issues, although aggressive emergent species such as common reed can eventually dominate area if not appropriately maintained.</p>
15. Waste Minimisation	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of TWC's litter bin waste goes to an energy from waste plant. On the go recycling is not implemented in TWC's public parks, as previous schemes saw significant waste contamination. 	
16. Chemical Use	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herbicide (glyphosate) is only used to treat invasive species and along the roadside kerb edges. 	
17. Peat use	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peat is not used on site. 	
18. Climate Change Adaption Strategies	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little evidence of TWC's approach to long term planning for climate change. TWC is moving towards a policy of 50:50 native introduced mix to enable plants to adapt to climate change. 	<p>R18.1- Undertake a phased replant of ornamental plantings replacing with native species, in accordance with TWC's climate change adaptation planting strategy.</p>

Conservation and Heritage			
19. Conservation of natural features, wild fauna and flora	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently, the Site has limited ecological value. Inappropriate municipal planting around the Site, including proliferation of bamboo. Potential to support protected and notable species, including breeding birds, roosting bats and amphibians. Large areas of amenity grassland of little ecological value. 	<p>R19.1- Identify areas of amenity grassland in the north where frequency of cutting can be reduced. Enhance these areas with additional sowing/green hay to increase and diversify local invertebrate assemblages.</p> <p>R19.2- Alter verge mowing regimes to reflect Plantlife (2019) guidance on road verge management.</p> <p>R19.3- Carry out regular habitat and species surveys.</p> <p>R19.4- Provide bat and bird boxes on mature trees in northern area of the Site.</p> <p>R19.5- Provide a bird feeding station, which could enhance bird abundance and species variety during winter months and provide local residents with an opportunity to engage more closely with wildlife.</p> <p>R19.6- New landscape planting should include native fruiting trees and single flowering species of shrubs and other plants that attract insects.</p> <p>R19.7- Provide invertebrate structures (e.g. bug hotels) and hedgehog nest/hibernation boxes in the wooded edges next to the amenity grassland found in northern area of the Site, in a sheltered place out of direct sunlight.</p> <p>R19.8- Restore and enhance wetland habitats to the north of the Site by removing deep silt, providing standing water suitable for spawning, and carrying out additional planting.</p> <p>R19.9- Retain some vegetation overhanging pool for birds, and provide marginal vegetation.</p>
20. Conservation of landscape features	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low water level of pool due to management changes in wider catchment. Area to the north of the pool contributes to the village feel of the Conservation Area. 	<p>R20.1- Feasibility study required to investigate cause of low water levels and possible solutions.</p> <p>R20.2- Ensure open views from viewpoints/benches through targeted tree removal.</p>

21. Conservation of buildings and structures	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Loco Shed and wall in need of repair. Wall which was formerly part of works in state of disrepair. Railway tracks and old Bridge Road convey historic development of area. Lack of interpretation of former buildings and structures associated with Horsehay Works. 	<p>R21.1- Retain and repair former factory wall.</p> <p>R21.2- Carry out feasibility study to replace existing brick parapet with a new post and rail arrangement to improve the visibility of the pool from the south.</p> <p>R21.3- Work with Telford Steam Railway Trust to carry out repair and enhancement works of old railway tracks, road crossing, wall and Old Loco Shed.</p> <p>R21.4- Install interpretation about former buildings and structures associated with Horsehay Works.</p>
Community Involvement			
22. Community Involvement in Management and Development	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active engagement with stakeholders, including Telford Angling Association, Friends Group and Telford Steam Railway Trust. Lack of communication to local residents about planned works. Proactive involvement of Friends Group in development of the Site, including Pocket Parks proposal. 	<p>R22.1- Improve communication channels between Council and residents moving forward.</p> <p>R22.2- Work with Friends Group to implement Pocket Parks scheme.</p> <p>R22.3- Involve TAA in the design and installation of new fishing pegs to ensure the platforms meet their requirements.</p> <p>R22.4- Continue involvement with local stakeholders and residents in the management and development of the Site.</p>
23. Appropriate Provision for Community	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Green occasionally used for community events, but limited due to presence of geese in summer. The Site is regularly used by Lawley Running Group and My Options The Site is used for recreational fishing purposes and is run by Telford Angling Association. 	<p>R23.1- Events held at the pool will impact on the grounds maintenance of the site. In order to alleviate extra maintenance costs, event organisers should be charged to make good all damage caused as part of the event.</p> <p>R23.2- Develop an educational package for self-guided and staff-led visits around the Site.</p> <p>R23.3- Inclusion of aquatic and riparian vegetation will provide suitable spawning areas and nurseries for young fish.</p>

Marketing and Communication			
24. Marketing and Promotion	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marketing is currently limited to information on Telford Angling Association's website and Friends of Horsehay Pool's Facebook page. There is a project page on the Dawley Hamlets Parish Council website, but it is currently blank. There is no visitor leaflet for the park. The Friends Group and Parish Council have newsletters which they have shared project updates on. 	<p>R24.1- The Site would benefit from a dedicated marketing plan focusing on improved interpretation and information about the Site, whilst recognising that the Site has limited capacity for significant increases in visitor numbers.</p> <p>R24.2- Work with local stakeholders, including Friends Group, Parish Council and Telford Angling Association to provide up to date information about the Site and improvement works.</p>
25. Appropriate information channels	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWC has a policy on water safety, but this is not included at the Site. TWC does not install life devices on its sites as policy. 'No swimming' signs are located around the Site. Information about fishing licenses is currently attached to trees, and is not easily accessible. 	<p>R25.1- Incorporate community notice board on Site, to include notices about fishing licence and water safety.</p>
26. Provision of appropriate educational interpretation and information	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no interpretation on Site. No facilitated visits by school groups. 	<p>R26.1- Develop educational resources for the Site, and work in partnership with local schools.</p> <p>R26.2- Develop interpretation boards, which include references to online information (such as QR codes and web addresses)</p>
Management			
27. Implementation of Management Plan			<p>R27.1- Carry out recommendations of ten year report of Horsehay Pool Reservoir.</p> <p>R27.2- Apply to quality recognition schemes, including GFA.</p> <p>R27.3- Undertake fish stock assessment to investigate species composition, density and biomass of fish within the pool in order to assist in sustainable management, including additional fish stocking or stock cropping and any necessary habitat improvements.</p>

In conclusion, Horsehay Pool in its current state and management regime would gain a Green Flag Award, with a total score of 141 (minimum pass 66). It should be noted that the mock assessment was carried out while this document was still being finalised and it is suggested that scores would increase considerably once all the documentation is complete.

6.0 Vision, Aims and Objectives

A vision statement has been developed in order to provide a guide as to what the management of the site should achieve. The overall vision of Horsehay Pool is:

A valued community green space and wildlife habitat which celebrates the rich heritage and ecology of Horsehay Pool, and provides the local community with opportunities for informal recreation and education.

A number of aims have been developed which collectively will achieve the overall vision for the Site. The recommendations from the Green Flag Award mock assessment have been collated and sorted according to which aim they will help achieve.

Aim 1: To ensure that the special historic interest and character of the landscape is protected, conserved and enhanced.

- R1.1- Improve gateway area on Bridge Road/Pool View to provide a sense of arrival to the Conservation Area.
- R1.2- Welcome signage to improve identity and visitor understanding of the Horsehay Pool.
- R1.3- Improve other entrances around the Site, including from Spring Village (connecting with T50 trail).
- R5.1- Replace existing street furniture and standardise design style across the Site.
- R11.2- Remove trees blocking historic vistas.
- R12.1- Graffiti and minor vandalism are to be addressed as a priority and recorded so any trends can be analysed and incorporated into future work plans.
- R12.4- Carry out repairs to dam wall as per engineer recommendations to prevent further damage, including spalling, loss of individual bricks and cracking.
- R20.2- Ensure open views from viewpoints/benches through targeted tree removal.
- R21.1- Retain and repair former factory wall.
- R21.4- Install interpretation about former buildings and structures associated with Horsehay Works.

Aim 2: To restore and enhance the Site's biodiversity, and secure its long term resilience to climate change.

- R11. 1- Remove dead and diseased trees. Leave deadwood for habitat where appropriate.
- R11.3- Implement recommendations from tree surveys.
- R11.4- Develop tree planting strategy to ensure suitable age and species mix across the Site.
- R11.5- Remove areas of tree regrowth and individual self-set trees within the grassland areas of the Site.
- R18.1- Undertake a phased replant of ornamental plantings replacing with native species, in accordance with TWC's climate change adaptation planting strategy.
- R19.1- Identify areas of amenity grassland in the north where frequency of cutting can be reduced. Enhance these areas with additional sowing/green hay to increase and diversify local invertebrate assemblages.
- R19.2- Alter verge mowing regimes to reflect Plantlife (2019) guidance on road verge management.
- R19.3- Carry out regular habitat and species surveys.
- R19.4- Provide bat and bird boxes on mature trees in northern area of the Site.
- R19.5- Provide a bird feeding station, which could enhance bird abundance and species variety during winter

- months and provide local residents with an opportunity to engage more closely with wildlife.
- R19.6- New landscape planting should include native fruiting trees and single flowering species of shrubs and other plants that attract insects.
- R19.7- Provide invertebrate structures (e.g. bug hotels) and hedgehog nest/hibernation boxes.
- R19.8- Restore and enhance wetland habitats to the north of the Site by removing deep silt, providing standing water suitable for spawning, and carrying out additional planting.
- R19.9- Retain some vegetation overhanging pool for birds, and provide marginal vegetation.
- R23.3- Inclusion of aquatic and riparian vegetation will provide suitable spawning areas and nurseries for young fish.

Aim 3: To adopt environmental management principles and therefore reduce the impact of management operations on the environment.

- R5.3- Review existing and potential measures to manage geese numbers and access to land, including oiling programme and planting of reeds near access points.
- R8.1- Review frequency of bin emptying, especially if number of visitors increase.
- R9.1- Review frequency of litter picks if visitor numbers increase.
- R9.2- Encourage fish and chip shop to use recyclable/ biodegradable packaging, as part of TWC's climate change and waste policies.
- R10.1- Ensure sufficient resources are provided if grounds maintenance requirements increase as proposals are implemented.
- R14.1- Carry out routine water quality monitoring consisting of monthly spot sampling from multiple locations around the pool. This will enable a target water quality investigation to identify sources of pollution. Continuous monitoring equipment can also provide a detailed picture of pollution events.
- R14.2- Installation of a reedbed in areas where there is a problem with misconnections could help with water quality issues, although aggressive emergent species such as common reed can eventually dominate area if not appropriately maintained.

Aim 4: To provide a safe, accessible and welcoming space for all members of the community.

- R2.1- Install footpaths where feasible to separate road and pedestrian traffic.
- R2.2- Consider introducing traffic control measures along surrounding roads.
- R2.3- Provide car parking on old Bridge Road.
- R3.1- Install welcome interpretive signage at all entrances to orientate people and facilitate education.
- R3.2- Install directional finger posts to direct visitors.
- R3.3- Install signs to indicate wheelchair accessible routes.
- R3.4- Signs should have bold and clear text, with some raised text information to be included to benefit users with visual impairments.
- R3.5- Safety notices should be consolidated.
- R4.1- Install fully accessible fishing pegs.
- R4.2- Provide disabled car parking where appropriate.
- R4.3- Provide an all-access surfaced circular route around the site.
- R4.4- Seating to be wheelchair and pushchair accessible.
- R6.2- Review position and number of fishing pegs, and replace as necessary.
- R8.2- Incorporate advisory dog control notices in signage if deemed necessary.

Aim 5: To actively promote and enable opportunities for community participation and involvement in the management and use of the pool, and in so doing, increase the number and range of volunteers engaged in a wide range of activities.

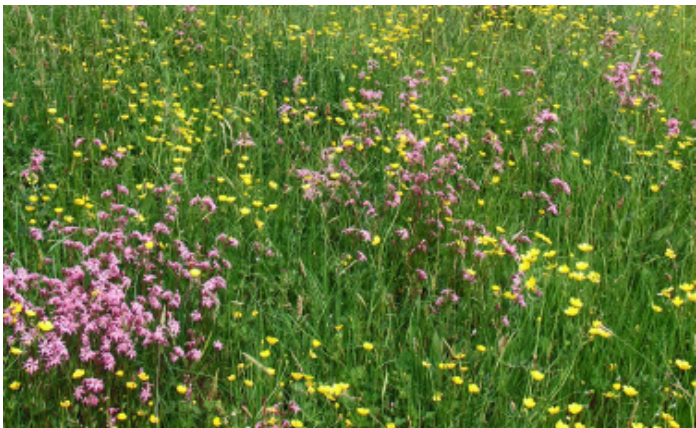
- R5.2- Involve My Options group in the design and installation of street furniture.
- R22.1- Improve communication channels between Council and residents moving forward.
- R22.2- Work with Friends Group to implement Pocket Parks scheme.
- R22.3- Involve TAA in the design and installation of new fishing pegs to ensure the platforms meet their requirements.
- R22.4- Continue involvement with local stakeholders and residents in the management and development of the Site.
- R23.1- Events held at the pool will impact on the grounds maintenance of the site. In order to alleviate extra maintenance costs, event organisers should be charged to make good all damage caused as part of the event.
- R23.2- Develop an educational package for self-guided and staff-led visits around the Site.
- R24.1- The Site would benefit from a dedicated marketing plan focusing on improved interpretation and information about the Site, whilst recognising that the Site has limited capacity for significant increases in visitor numbers.
- R24.2- Work with local stakeholders, including Friends Group, Parish Council and Telford Angling Association to provide up to date information about the Site and improvement works.
- R25.1- Incorporate community notice board on Site, to include notices about fishing licence and water safety.
- R26.1- Develop educational resources for the Site, and work in partnership with local schools.
- R26.2- Develop interpretation boards, which include references to online information (such as QR codes and web addresses)

Aim 6: To provide a responsive, flexible and high quality management service and work with the Friends of Horsehay Pool, the Parish Council and other community members to realise the vision.

- R6.1- Carry out regular condition surveys of equipment and facilities at the Site.
- R12.2- Work with Severn Trent to implement repair works to drainage.
- R12.3- Work with Local Ward Members to carry out highways improvement scheme on unadopted road in Spring Village.
- R20.1- Feasibility study required to investigate cause of low water levels and possible solutions.
- R21.2- Carry out feasibility study to replace existing brick parapet with a new post and rail arrangement to improve the visibility of the pool from the south.
- R21.3- Work with Telford Steam Railway Trust to carry out repair and enhancement works of old railway tracks, road crossing, wall and Old Loco Shed.
- R27.1- Carry out recommendations of ten year report of Horsehay Pool Reservoir.
- R27.2- Apply to quality recognition schemes, including GFA.
- R27.3- Undertake fish stock assessment to investigate species composition, density and biomass of fish within the pool in order to assist in sustainable management, including additional fish stocking or stock cropping and any necessary habitat improvements.



Interpretation boards about wildlife and heritage



Wildflower meadow



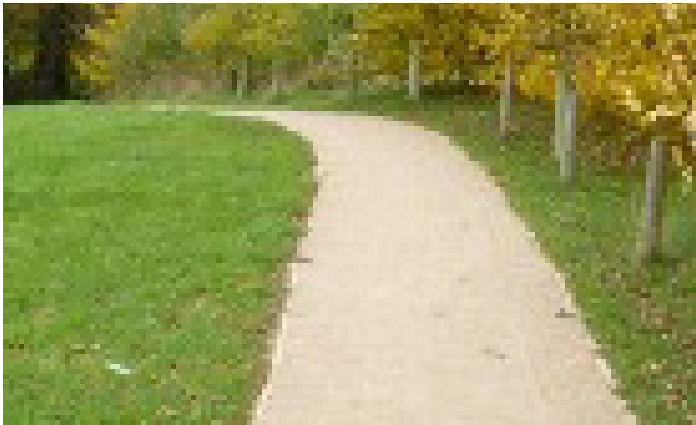
Wheelchair accesible picnic benches



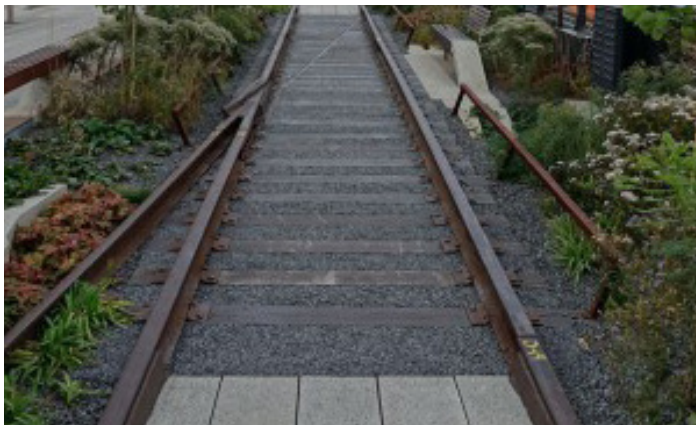
Wheelchair accessible fishing pegs



Bird boxes



All-access surfaced path



Reinterpreted former train lines



Pond planting for wildlife

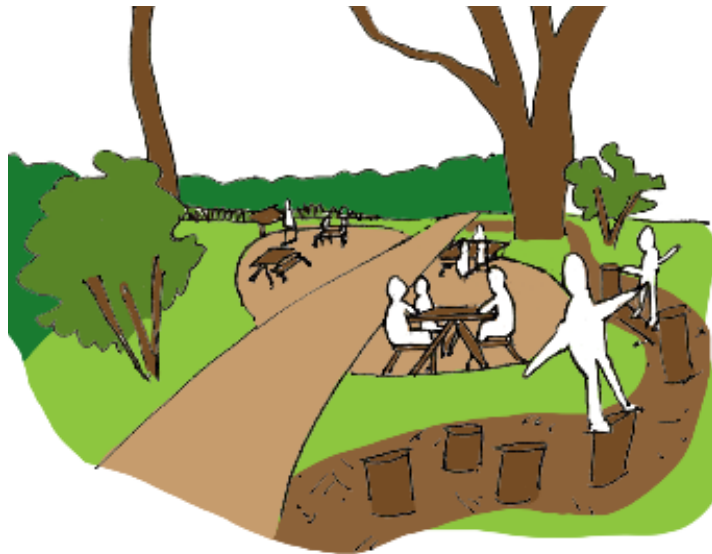
7.0 Sketch Options

Three sketch options have been developed for Horsehay Pool for initial discussion with the TWC client team. The spatial layout and configuration of the options are based on the results of the site analysis. Once approved by the client, the options will be developed and refined to RIBA Stage 2 Concept level masterplans.

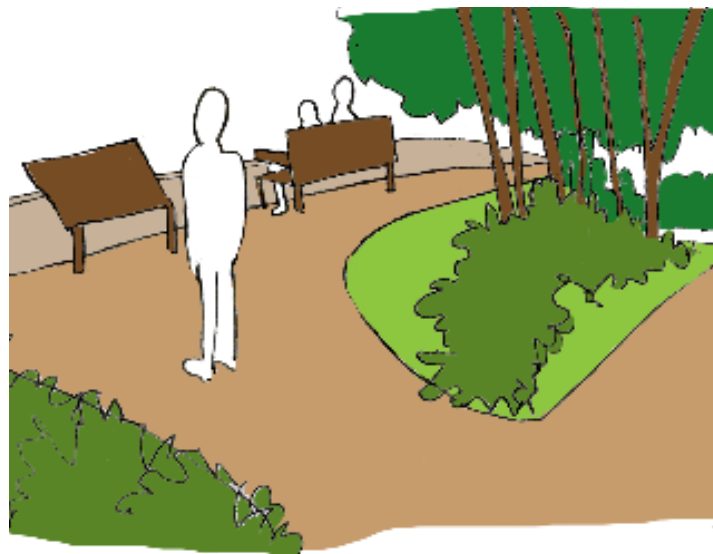
7.1 Sketch Option 1

Key features:

- 1. Wildlife pond with marginal planting, suitable for spawning of amphibians.
- 2. Surfaced path and seating to provide an all-access route around the site.
- 3. Enhancement of existing grassland with wildflower seeding and bulb planting. Management of self-set trees and bankside vegetation to open up views.
- 4. Installation of accessible fishing pegs.
- 5. Resurfacing of old Bridge Road and reinstatement of former train lines to Old Loco Shed. Provision of formalised car parking spaces, and bollards to prevent vehicular access along pedestrianised old Bridge Road.
- 6. Extended surfaced area on raised verge behind former factory wall to offer elevated views across pool.
- 7. Improved gateway area, incorporating resurfacing, tree planting, seating and interpretation board.
- 8. Bank vegetation cleared and new path established on grass verge to separate pedestrians from vehicles. Fishing pegs removed along western bank.
- 9. Aquatic and marginal planting suitable for fish spawning
- 10. De-silting of northern/eastern area and creation of island from material.
- 11. Reed planting to deter geese access.
- 12. Surfaced picnic area connecting to new surfaced path network. Area could also be suitable for small-scale community events.
- 13. Natural play trail, incorporating natural features such as log balance beams and stepping logs.



Sketch perspective view showing new surfaced path network, picnic area and natural play trail through village green area in northern area of site.



Sketch perspective view showing mound adjacent to Bridge Road, with new viewing area incorporating surfaced path, seating and interpretation.

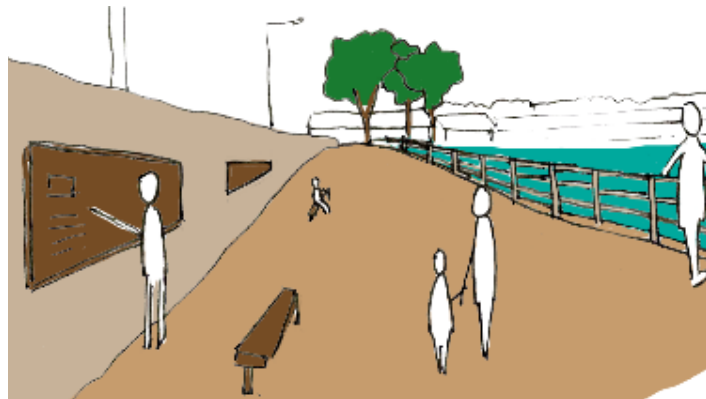


Sketch Option 1 Plan

7.2 Sketch Option 2

Key features:

1. Circular path and boardwalks overlooking stream and new wetland area, enhanced with wildlife-friendly planting.
2. New path and seating along eastern edge of pool.
3. All-access fishing pontoon to replace existing fishing pegs.
4. Resurfacing of old Bridge Road and reinstatement of former train lines to Old Loco Shed. Provision of formalised car parking spaces, and bollards to prevent vehicular access along pedestrianised old Bridge Road.
5. Interpretation panels mounted on old factory wall, depicting the historic development of Horsehay.
6. Renovated shrub beds and re-establishment of elevated viewing area across pool.
7. Post and rail fencing to replace dam wall and offer uninterrupted views across the pool. Gateway area on the corner of Bridge Road and Pool View enhanced with resurfacing and seating.
8. Bankside vegetation managed, with phased removal of non-native planting and dead, diseased and damaged trees, and replacement with native shrubs and trees.
9. New surfaced path through village green area with seating and interpretation.
10. Reedbeds to deter access from geese, and filter water from sewage misconnection.
11. Picnic area set within grass area, enhanced with wildflower seeding and bulb planting.



Sketch perspective view of the old Bridge Road transformed into a pedestrianised plaza, with a new fencing offering enhanced views across the pool.



Sketch perspective view of fishing pontoon to replace existing fishing pegs, providing all-access angling opportunities.



Sketch Option 2 Plan

7.3 Sketch Option 3

Key features:

1. New surfaced path network.
2. Benches set within planting beds. Bankside vegetation thinned to provide views across pool.
3. New all-access fishing pegs.
4. Resurfacing of old Bridge Road and reinstatement of former train lines to Old Loco Shed. Provision of formalised car parking spaces along old factory wall.
5. Hammerhead turning circle for cars.
6. Entrance area off Bridge Road enhanced with new landscaping.
7. Existing fishing pegs (up to 3no.) renovated and access formalised. Bankside vegetation managed, with phased removal of non-native planting and dead, diseased and damaged trees, and replacement with native shrubs and trees.
8. Disabled car parking for easy access to disabled fishing pegs on northern bank.
9. Surfaced area with interpretation and picnic benches, offering extended views of the pool and island.
10. Disabled fishing pegs on northern bank.
11. De-silting of northern/eastern area and creation of island from material.



Sketch perspective view showing Pool Side, with new all-access fishing pegs, surfaced path network and seating set within planting beds.



Sketch perspective view showing surfaced area with interpretation, picnic benches and accessible fishing pegs. Extended views of the pool and the island.



Sketch Option 3 Plan