

# Lower Otter Restoration Project

## An update on the project we are delivering for your local community



Welcome to the quarterly newsletter, aiming to provide information surrounding work progress, key programme and community engagement on behalf of Kier, The Environment Agency and landowner, Clinton Devon Estates.

### Key benefits to this project include;

- New footbridge on the SW footpath
- Raising and surfacing of some existing footpaths
- New embankment to carry South Farm Road
- Re-naturalisation of Budleigh Brook
- Relocation of Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club
- Breach to enable valley to become intertidal

### Construction update:

The road embankment has now been constructed and the settlement period is now complete. Works to remove the additional soil back to finished height has now begun.

The Western footpath improvements (Little Bank) are now underway with temporary diversions in place until the end of October.

The Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club will be relocated to a purpose-built pitch in a more sustainable location above the floodplain, preparing the way for the connection of the historic flood plain with the Otter estuary via a breach in the earth embankment



### South Farm Road overnight closures: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September between 8pm – 5am

All heavy works will finish no later than 11pm. Unlikely to generate a noise beyond the sound of regular traffic. Emergency services will have full access throughout the duration.

### Key Construction Dates:

**Autumn 2022:** Raising footpath (south of South Farm Road) and temporary diversion at Whitebridge

**Early spring 2023:** New South Farm Road to become operational

**Spring 2023:** Kersbrook Culvert connection to new creek system at the new South Farm Road bridge

**Late spring 2023:** Breach existing bank north of Lime Kiln car park. Project will then become intertidal



# Lower Otter Restoration Project

## Environment Agency Update

We know how important footpaths are to people and we have worked hard to keep them open where it is safe to do so. We are now carrying out works between the River Otter and East Budleigh, this would have required the closure of the footpath linking these two areas, however, I am pleased to say that the team have been able to install a temporary footpath so that the public can continue to enjoy this route for duration of the works in this area.

In September the team will put in place similar measures to make sure that the SW coast path is not disrupted when we undertake the construction of the new footbridge.

As a final note the team is hoping to temporarily reopen the newly surfaced footpath between big bank and South Farm Road in September (a further short temporary closure will be required when we link this footpath to the new South Farm Road embankment). So you can soon start to enjoy some of the new benefits of the improved footpath network.

- Dan Boswell EA Project Manager

## Ecology Update

Breeding bird season (March to September inclusive) is well underway. A variety of bird species have successfully bred on the Lower Otter Restoration Project. Nesting species have included Goldfinch, Long Tailed-Tit, and Blackbird and migrant species such as Chiffchaff, Reed Warbler and Sedge Warbler.

As we progress through bird nesting season, there has been a daily increase in fledgling numbers around the site which is very encouraging. Greenfinches seem to be doing very well in the local area which is great to see as numbers nationally are still relatively low.



The local Cetti's Warblers, a schedule 1 species under the Wildlife and countryside Act (1981 as amended), have successfully bred again this year around the periphery of the site. One of the projects success stories so far is the new creek systems and the abundance of food they are providing for a wide range of bird species. This new foraging habitat has attracted species such as Black Tailed Godwit, Green Sandpiper and Little Ringed Plover, all are schedule 1 species giving an exciting taster of what is to come once the project is completed.

- Mark Wills Hi Line Ecologist



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## Community Engagement

Since March over 1,500 youngsters from local primary and secondary schools have visited the site to learn about how LORP is helping the area adapt to Climate Change. A number of students have benefited from time on the site work as part of experience. The Kier team have supported the community by joining forces working with *Budleigh in Bloom* to re-launch 'Digger Rogers' and with *Budleigh Salterton Lions Club* to support food bank donations and litter-picks.



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## Considerate Constructor Scheme

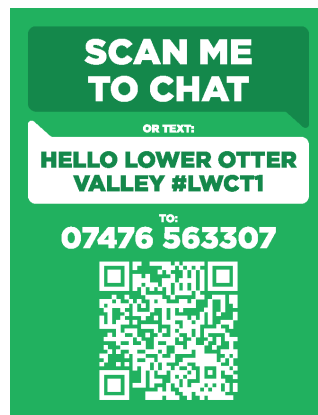


The team have received confirmation after a recent Considerate Contractor Scheme visit, the Lower Otter Restoration Project has received the highest score available **45/45**

Scoring	
Respect the <b>Community</b>	<b>Excellent - 15 / 15</b>
Care for the <b>Environment</b>	<b>Excellent - 15 / 15</b>
Value their <b>Workforce</b>	<b>Excellent - 15 / 15</b>
Overall summary	<b>Excellent - 45 / 45</b>

## Hello Lamp Post

Hello Lamp Post allows people to have two-way 'chats' with their surroundings, providing people with key local information, while gathering important perceptions, opinions and ideas.



Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone or text the number to find out about the LORP scheme whilst enjoying your walk around the area.

## Site opening hours

08:00 - 17:00 Monday - Friday

Out of hours contact telephone number  
07815 493 883

## Keeping you informed

Tell us the best way we can keep you up to date with the latest information.

- Newsletters
- Social Media
- Website
- Emails
- Text message notifications
- Face to Face meetings

We will then be able to make use of the most popular methods.

Simply email [exmouth.plo@kier.co.uk](mailto:exmouth.plo@kier.co.uk)

## Get in touch

If you have any questions or queries then please get in touch with Kelly

Email: [exmouth.plo@kier.co.uk](mailto:exmouth.plo@kier.co.uk)

Telephone: 07716 223 056

## Thank you!

