

Salisbury River Park

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

Welcome to the Salisbury River Park construction newsletter, where Kier will provide up to date progress surrounding the works happening on site, interesting ecological information as well as key construction dates. The newsletter also aims to provide opportunity to communicate information from the Environment Agency.

An update on Salisbury River Park

Project progress:

Central Car Park

The dry weather over the last month has enabled us to make significant progress throughout the site, despite river levels remaining far higher than we would expect for this time of year. We are still expecting the majority of works to complete at the end of this year, with a final completion of Spring 2024.

The new Millstream Approach vehicle Bridge is progressing very well with the eastern abutment completed and the western abutment due to complete this month, at which point the beams for the deck can be lifted on.

The team are now able to restart the channel profiling for the new River Avon. This has started with the channel to the North of the Coach Park, and include the channel to the south shortly as well.

Unfortunately BT have not yet finished the cable diversion, although this is scheduled to be complete this month. This means that we have been unable to demolish the old footbridge and open up the new riverside footpath, which means it is unlikely that will happen before September.



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Key milestones and construction dates:

Ashley Road / Fisherton Recreation Ground

There has been a lot of progress in this area over the last month. Works are progressing well on the flood embankment in Fisherton Rec, with the majority constructed and topsoiling having commenced. Construction of the wet wells for the pumping station behind the embankment has also commenced.

The new footbridge near the boardwalk is partially constructed with the abutments due to finish this month.



Fisherton Rec embankment



New footbridge



Ashley Road embankment in construction

Due to vital works that Wiltshire Council are having to undertake to repair the Five Rivers Leisure Centre footbridge, the project team have brought forward works planned for Ashley Road Open Space. This is to minimise the combined disruption.

Construction of the flood embankment that runs parallel to Ashley Road is estimated to complete this month. Once complete, the planned access paths over this embankment will begin as soon as possible, enabling access through this area again.

Please note that throughout these works there will still be access into this space and the play area from the eastern end of Ashley Road, opposite the Theatre.



As reported in previous newsletters we are really pleased to be working with Wessex Archaeology on the Ripple Effect project, which involves working with a group of local adults. As part of a recent session the participants pulled on their waders to take part in a kick sampling session in the River Avon with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Identifying the different organisms carefully in buckets before gently returning them back to the river, the participants noted damsel fly larvae, water fleas, water bugs, freshwater shrimp, water hog louse, caseless caddis and cased caddis flies, three different types of mayfly, a flatbodied stoneclinger and more! This inspired a beautiful outdoor drawing session capturing these tiny special creatures on a larger scale!

The participants are currently part way through their next set of sessions. The intention is to have an exhibition in October to showcase all the work they have done. Lookout for further information on this in future newsletters.



Also, In the May edition of the newsletter we reported on the sessions a local artist, Zac Newham, had been doing as part of this project with Sarum St Pauls primary school. In the last month he has also run a session at Exeter House School, working with children with varying needs.

This included creating a Chalk Stream playboard and a soundscape board to use at the school. Based on the lessons learnt from these Zac will create similar items that will be included in the new play area. Zac will also be running some workshops with South Wilts School this month.



One of the exciting elements of the River Park project is the public art strategy that is going on alongside the main works. There are several key parts to this.

Play area – As reported previously we have an artist (Zac Newham) involved in the design of the play area, which is including producing some interactive boards as well as some artwork for the multi games area. We will be able to provide more details on this shortly.



Orchard seating – Zac is also involved in designing and fabricating some bespoke seating that will go within Fisherton Rec. One part of this will be in the main open area, and the second part will be in the low sensory space between the orchard and the allotments.

Art Trail – Artist Jane Edden has been appointed to create an Art Trail throughout the River Park inspired by its ecology. The intention is to incorporate the information boards that are being provided into the trail, with Jane also proposing an artwork that will be located in the new park area to the North of the Coach Park. The detail for this is currently being developed, but the early design ideas involve the use of Corten Steel to create a concertina structure that will give different views as you move around it. More detail will be provided in the next newsletter!

Toilet Block – A recent open call-out to artists to create artwork for the toilet block by the coach park has resulted in many exciting and varied creative ideas which we are currently reviewing. We look forward to sharing these with you when the selected artist is appointed.

School competition – We have run a competition at Sarum St Pauls School where we have asked all the students to produce a drawing or poem that we can carve or etch into some of the wooden elements of the play area. We have really enjoyed looking through the amazing set of responses and will be shortly agreeing the final ones that we will take forward.

Name:
Class:

As part of the Salisbury River Park play area project we need your help! We are looking for you to design a logo for the park, or a drawing related to the wildlife of the area, or a short poem about the local wildlife. We will select the best entries from across the school and include them in the play area either by casting them into the surfacing, or carving them into the benches, poles or signs.



Please draw your image in the box above, or use additional paper if you need! Images should be in black and white, but we can also try to incorporate colour. Make sure you include your name and class in the corner, and return them to your class teacher.



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Supporting your local community

Allotments:

We have been pleased to be able to assist the local allotment association in clearing an unused space on Fisherton Farm to become the permanent home of the allotment shop and community space. We look forward to working further with the allotment association on this.



Cleared allotment space

Do you have anything to tell us about the scheme?

Do you have any anecdotes or historical references about the schemes locality that you would like to share - as the team to love to hear about them...

Simply email: Salisburyplo@kier.co.uk

Site opening hours

08:00 – 17:00 Monday – Friday

Kier project office

Kier Compound

Salisbury River Park

Salisbury

SP13TA

Keeping you informed

Visit our website:

[Environment Agency Salisbury River Park Phase 1](https://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/salisburyriverparkphase1)
(salisburyriverparkphase1.com)

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For more information on the project and regular updates

Get in touch

If you have any questions or concerns then please get in touch with us

Email:

riverpark@environment-agency.gov.uk



or Salisburyplo@kier.co.uk

Thank you!

