

CCRiP Update

22nd September 2025

1) Watercourse surveys

Three areas on the River Cam that required surveys paid for by the Parish Council, the status is as follows:

Sandbrook

The first survey has been carried out although due to time constraints about 75% completed

Yarlington

Landowners have been contacted and given permission, date of survey to be scheduled.

South of Brookhampton

Contact details of landowner have been found, letter to be prepared requesting permission.

2) NFM projects progress

A tour of Emily Estate (EE) projects took place looking at work completed as a result of a report^s prepared by the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) and Yeovil Rivers Community Trust (YRCT). Most of the work to date has been carried out in the catchment area flowing into Bratton Seymour but included bunds and leaky dams. In the Cam catchment the work did include a major bund behind Gods Lane Farm House as suggested by YRCT, and also a look at the new trout pond.

A scoping survey on land north of the River Cam between Yarlington and Galhampton has been carried out by Lorne Thompson of YRCT on behalf of EE last year but no further progress has been made.

A further meeting with EE and another adjacent landowner relating to land to the west of Sandbrook lane was held this week.

Wessex Water is undertaking to work with landowners where phosphate levels are high. We are very grateful to James Buxton (Manor Farm in Galhampton) who has embraced the concept. As sampling by Mareike showed the phosphate levels to be above the threshold Wessex Water paid for Lorne Thompson to prepare a report of works which could be done to mitigate phosphate levels and also provide natural flood management. We anticipate final approvals within Wessex Water should happen soon and the work also funded by Wessex Water can commence.

3) Highways

The contours along Sandbrook Lane and insufficiently sized drain pipes near Hewletts Mill Cottage result in surface water runoff being directed towards houses. Highways have in some cases made flood ramps to redirect flood waters, so discussions with Highways to be initiated.

4) Developing Relationships

The Somerset River Authority (SRA) has confirmed that they will now change their funding strategy for the new financial year which will enable small charities like YRCT to receive funding. This is really amazingly good news and shows that they are acknowledging the significant work that has been done by Lorne and Mareike.

Additionally FWAG and the SRA have now approached YRCT and confirmed that they want to work together with YRCT/CCRiP. This is also a significant development and should result in further resources being made available.