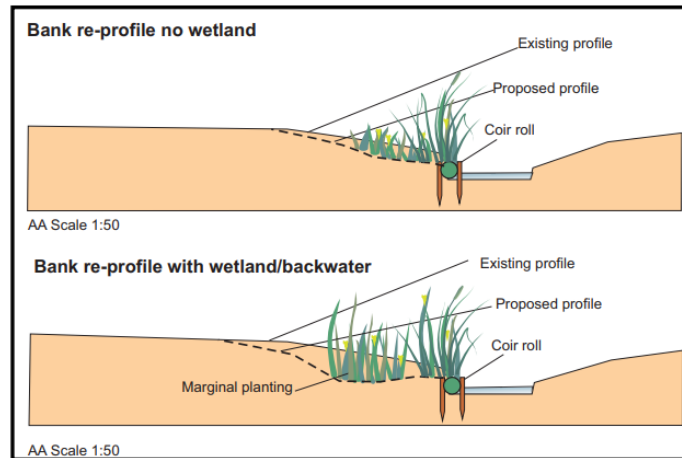


# Restoration Proposals on the Pessall Brook, Coton in the Elms

An exciting collaborative project is being proposed on the Pessall Brook in Coton. Local Councillor Amy Wheelton has brought together Coton Parish Council, South Derbyshire District Council and The Trent Rivers Trust to restore the brook in response to damage, degradation and siltation of the watercourse and its banks caused by recent flooding.

Nature Based Solutions are being proposed which involve bank re-profiling into a two stage channel which has the following benefits:

- Greater capacity for flood waters
- More resilient, self-cleaning channel
- Reduced slumping of banks
- Reduced maintenance requirements
- Safe access to the channel
- Increased biodiversity – more habitat diversity and improved conditions for species that are part of the brooks natural heritage
- The banks will be naturally stabilised by the roots of grasses and wildflowers.



South  
Derbyshire  
District Council

## Example of a re-profiled bank



During construction, showing low flow channel and dry ledge



Shortly after construction with re-profiled ledge flooded

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Pessall Brook at Coton is a tributary of the River Mease which is a Special Area of Conservation – one of the highest designated habitats in Europe.

**DID YOU KNOW?** One of the reasons for its designation is due to the presence of a small fish called a Spined Loach, which is only present in 5 rivers of the UK, the River Mease being one of them. You may even see them in the Pessall Brook at Coton and the proposed works will make the brook even more suitable for them!



## What to expect during works?

- Excavation works to the riverbanks are due to take place in September 2022 and will last approximately 2-3 weeks. Timing of works are restricted by the fish breeding season
- Works will take place on the brook in the centre of the village – upstream of the Mill street culvert owned by Coton Parish Council and downstream on land owned by South Derbyshire District Council.
- One excavator will be undertaking earthworks to the brook. Work will be mostly restricted to the grassland surrounding the brook but some road crossing between the two sections will be required. A tractor and trailer will transport soil out of the village to be disposed of so will be mostly parked on the road by the location of works when on site.
- The river banks will be bare over the winter of 2022 and the area will look a bit messy during and after works. Restoration works always look worse before they get better.

## Planting and reseeded

- Reseeding of the banks through coir rolls and seed sowing will take place during works and will take time to establish. Further planting, including plug planting of native flowers, will take place in Spring 2023.
- Trent Rivers Trust will work with South Derbyshire District Council and Coton Parish Council to establish a vegetation management plan that is suitable for the river and the village.
- A mix of native grasses and wildflowers will be used (approx. 60% grass, 40% wildflowers). A grass mix is important for stabilisation of the banks and providing habitat for river species.
- We invite residents of the village to help out with the planting and input into the management plan.



Example of Coir Roll Installation



Coir Roll establishment after 7 months



Example of species mix to be used for planting

**We would love to hear from you with any comments /feedback /concerns /questions or ideas about the proposed works and/or the planting and management.**

Please direct all enquiries and questions to:

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