

## **Christleton to Tattenhall Towpath Project**

**4<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – via Zoom.**

### **PRESENT**

Canal River Trust - Rebecca Mason

Christleton Parish Council – John Beckitt

Tattenhall & District Parish Council – Paul Kerr, Ann Wright (Clerk)

### **Purpose of Meeting: To confirm objectives of towpath project and design work to be undertaken by the Canal River Trust.**

It was confirmed the objective is to improve the existing canal towpath to create a shared user path to meet the needs of the areas it passes through.

#### **Christleton**

It was noted the surfaced towpath finishes at the A41 road bridge (Bridge 122) at the boundary with Great Broughton.

The current surface is delaminated and badly eroded.

The main objective for Christleton Parish Council is to resurface and widen the path which will be used by students to get the Christleton High School avoiding the A41 footways. It was calculated that 300-400 High students travel on foot over a 20-minute period both morning and afternoon as such the towpath will need to withstand a high footfall, higher than in Tattenhall and more rural sections of the towpath.

Although a costing of £400,000 has previously been provided for a tarmac surface there is no drawn up scheme.

#### **Waverton**

It was understood that there is desire to widen the towpath in Waverton. It was noted that the towpath is surfaced to Egg Bridge and from there onwards is not surfaced.

It was noted a representative from Waverton will attend the next meeting to provide more details.

#### **Design**

It was confirmed the Trust will produce a full technical plan/design for the Towpath from the A41 Bridge 122 to just beyond Tattenhall Marina, Dutton's Bridge 112.

The plan can then be used to produce a full costing for all works. It will also be possible to break up the costing into smaller sections.

The plan will not include designs for DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant accesses onto the Towpath although access points will be identified.

It was noted that different sections of the towpath will require different works and surface treatments.

It was discussed that the following maybe required for each area however this will be confirmed following discussion with Dave George the engineer who will lead the design process.

Christleton – resurface with tarmac & widen, accesses already exist.

Waverton – TBC

Tattenhall – Path requires digging out and Ultitrec recycled surface.

Once the funding has been confirmed work will commence on the technical design.

### Funding

It was confirmed once the scheme has been designed and costed it will be easier to go to funders and apply for grants etc to deliver the project.

It was reported that there is adequate S106 funding available from the Saighton Camp development to surface the Christleton section of the Towpath but to date CW&C has not agreed to release the funding.

It was reported that Tattenhall Parish Council has earmarked around £65k towards the project from Community Infrastructure Funding (CIL).

### Project Name

It was agreed the project requires a title which will generate interest and support for the project.

It was noted that the proposed towpath improvements will provide a safe route to the Ice Cream Farm, Tattenhall which is the second highest visitor attraction in Chester after the Zoo avoiding use of roads and on to Beeston where there is a proposal to reopen the railway station.

### Objectives

The following objectives to be agreed by Parish Councils:

Technical design/plan to be produced by the Canal River Trust with surfacing to meet the varying needs of the different sections.

To agree to support project as a whole and work together to promote the project and attract funding.

### Next meeting

Wednesday 11th June 2025 – 9am – Zoom (provided by John Beckitt).

Ann Wright  
04/06/2025