

Natural Resources Wales brings together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales. Our purpose is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably enhanced, maintained and used, now and in the future.

Welcome to our fourteenth newsletter!

Many homes and businesses in Roath and Penylan are at risk of flooding from the Roath Brook and River Rhymney. Natural Resources Wales is working with partners and the community to deliver a flood scheme to reduce flood risk to over 400 properties. This newsletter aims to keep you informed of the scheme's progress and upcoming consultation.

We will be hosting a community **drop in session** in **St Edwards Church Hall** on **Wednesday 15th November 2017** from **3pm until 6:30pm** (located on Westville Road, at the junction with Blenheim Road). Our staff will be on hand to answer your questions, discuss progress to date and future works.

What's been happening?

Works have been progressing throughout Railway Gardens (the Sandies), Waterloo Gardens and the lower end of Roath Mill Gardens, as well as the replacement of Waterloo Road Bridge.

As you are probably aware, it has been necessary to close Waterloo Road Bridge for it to be replaced by a new bridge with no central pier. This will pose less of a restriction to flood flows within the Brook and reduce flood risk. The main structure of this new bridge was craned into place on 30th October, and works will now begin on the road construction itself, along with cladding works to the bridge parapets and rediverting services.

These works are progressing well and we hope to reopen the bridge in April 2018, though we would emphasise there are risks, such as co-ordination of service diversions that could delay this.

We would like to apologise for any inconvenience this road closure is causing to the local community, and any disruption to the businesses immediately adjacent to it, which continue to operate as usual. We are constructing sheet piled flood walls upstream of the bridge and throughout Waterloo Gardens, with concrete walls constructed in Railway Gardens. The alignment of the new walls can now be seen, as we continue to clad them in brick and stone. The majority of sheet piling is now complete, but certain sections will continue until January 2018, although this will generally be intermittent and of short duration, to fit around other work.



What's Next?

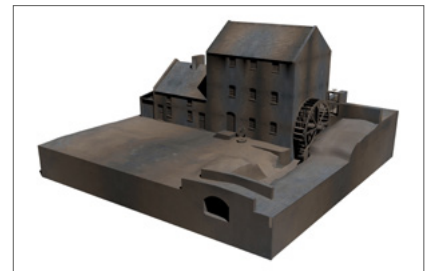
We will soon be felling some trees in Roath Brook Gardens and the upstream end of Roath Mill Gardens. This is to allow the channel widening and bank re-profiling works within these parks, which will increase the river's capacity and reduces the extent of walls required. We recognise tree removal is upsetting, but have reduced the number of trees to be felled as much as possible through the design. 42 trees will be felled, including 6 trees being removed due to their general condition (not their proximity to engineering works). All trees to be felled have been marked with a blue "F" in spray paint by our Arboricultural Consultant, so they are visible to the public. Please note there are tree tags (numbered metal discs) on many other trees that only require minor works to them, such as the removal of dead branches. Clearance work is planned for late November / December, but may extend in to January.

We aim to re-open the footbridge connecting Newminster Road to Waterloo Gardens in February 2018. We will reopen areas and paths within the parks as soon as they are complete and it is safe to do so. Sections of Railways Gardens will be the first to be reopened in Spring 2018, with Waterloo Gardens following in late Spring / early Summer (a large portion of Waterloo Gardens remains open for use).



Works will continue within Railway Gardens and Waterloo Gardens, including cladding of the new flood walls, followed by landscaping and replanting. The reinstatement of these parks next summer will include the planting of 105 trees. Please see our webpage for full details, including annotated planting plans with species and sizes of trees.

We will be installing public artwork, in the form of a bronze model of the Corn Mill that once existed, in Roath Mill Gardens, along with a buried time capsule compiled by local school children. Also, as part of our community engagement we are collaborating with Cardiff Council and local primary schools to plant 200 tree saplings in the nearby Roath Recreational Ground.



Communication

For construction related queries please contact Dawnus's Community Officer, Matthew Frewer – **07880 358541**,

Roath@dawnus.co.uk

For further information please visit our scheme webpage:

naturalresources.wales/roath

Or via - Twitter: **@natreswales**

or Facebook: **NatResWales**

Please sign up to our mailing list to receive our newsletters by email, as we prefer to issue them electronically. If you do not have access to email, but live in Roath, please call Matthew Frewer with your details and we shall arrange to deliver future newsletters to you.

Contact us or sign up for news:

Roath@NaturalResourcesWales.gov.uk