

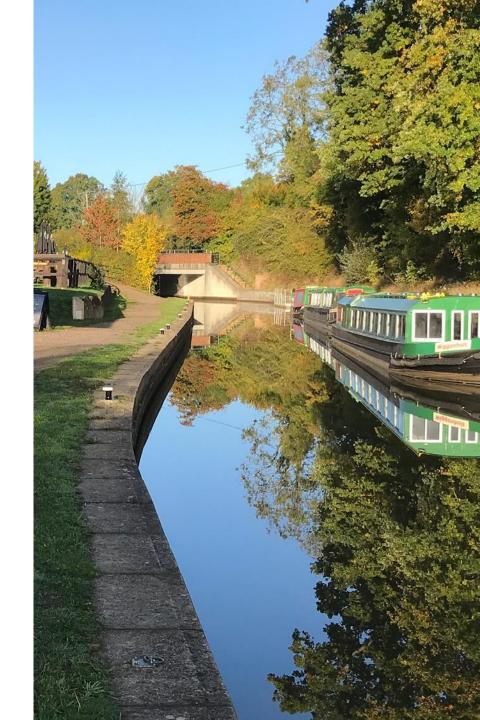
## Introduction

- We have come a long way since the canal restoration started, but there is a huge amount still to be done
- We remain committed to full restoring the canal, but also want to ensure we deliver on our aims to :
  - Enhance public access: restoring the towpath and creating new footpath and bridleway links
  - □ Create a waterway for recreation and leisure
  - Extend the "green corridor" for wildlife and the peaceful enjoyment of the countryside
  - Be an educational resource and an opportunity for volunteering
  - □ To research and conserve heritage features



# Accelerating Restoration Opening up our green corridor

- Our updated plans all contribute to the full restoration of the canal
- They also ensure we continue to progress our other aims and deliver benefits to the local community
- We have updated our multi-site strategy and have set out an aspirational vision for 2030
- We are excited to share our plans today !



### **Key enablers**

To make this happen we will need to several things to come together

- Secure landowner support and secure access through purchase or long-term leases
- Timely approvals to our planning applications
- Secure new sources of funding and ask for new donations from our supporters



## **Priority Plans and 2030 Vision**

 4 Priority areas in which to progress projects in the next 3 years

□ Focus our efforts

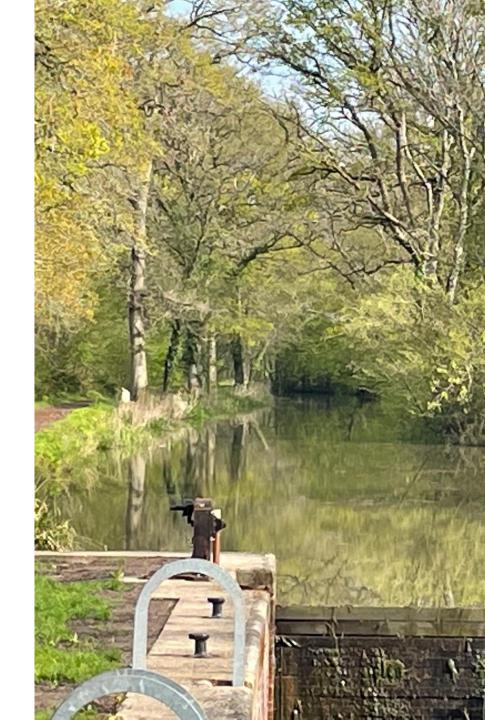
Best opportunities with community benefits

Multiple projects in each of the 4 areas

• An aspirational and challenging vision for 2030

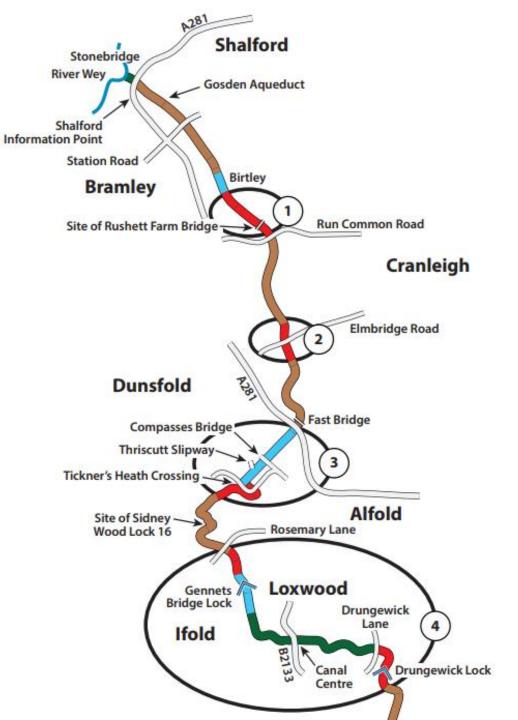
More connected restored sections

Improved access and usable for small boats



## **Priority Areas next 3 years**

- South of Bramley
- Cranleigh
- Dunsfold and Alfold
- Loxwood



## **South of Bramley**

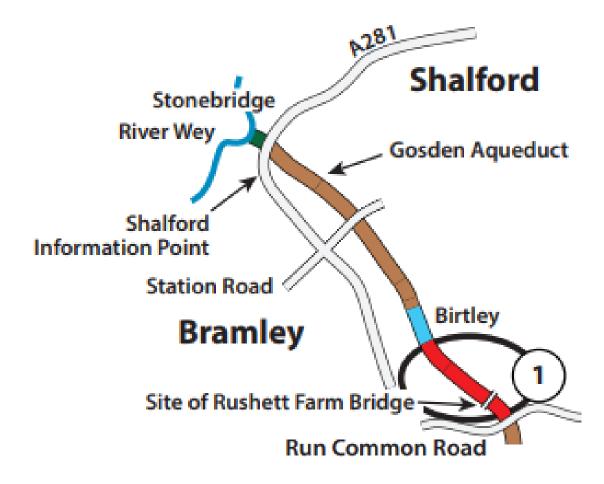
- Continue south from Birtley bridge 1
- Before we look forward, let's remind ourselves what was achieved last year
- At the meeting a photo slide Show was shown (not included in this presentation)



## **South of Bramley Projects**

- Fanesbridge /Rooks Hill restoration: extending Birtley section and creating new footpaths

   Awaiting decision on planning Application
   Phased approach to include new bridge and cut
- Rushett Farm restoration
  - Complete lock on Rooks Hill section and continue south
  - Restore as much as possible on the original route but with a diversion around the encampment at Rushett Common bridge
- With both projects completed:
  - □ 2 KM section of canal from Birtley to Rushetts
  - □ Improved access and links to Greensand Way



## Cranleigh

- Opening up two sections of the canal to connect under Elmbridge Road into Cranleigh
- Rye Farm (North of Elmbridge Road)

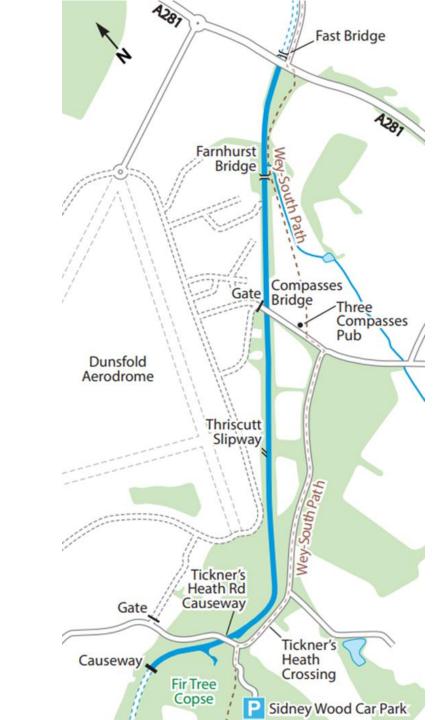
Breaking News : Planning permission approved !
 Work on creating 300m of new towpath to start this year

- Elmbridge Road
  - Prospective project for 350m of restoration plus new canal bridge
  - □ Continuing liaison with County Council and others



## **Dunsfold and Alfold**

- Restoration of nearly 2km of the waterway completed by Dunsfold Park's contractors
- New canal side path to be opened up in due course as part of the new village development
- Over 30 members joined John Thorp this morning to walk part of this section and see the transformation
- Currently still within secure Aerodrome but will become a public space with housing development
  - Dunsfold Park plans include new canal basin
  - □ Links to wider footpath / bridleway network
  - Full support from Dunsfold Park for Trust events prior to public access being opened up





#### **Tickners Heath Crossing**

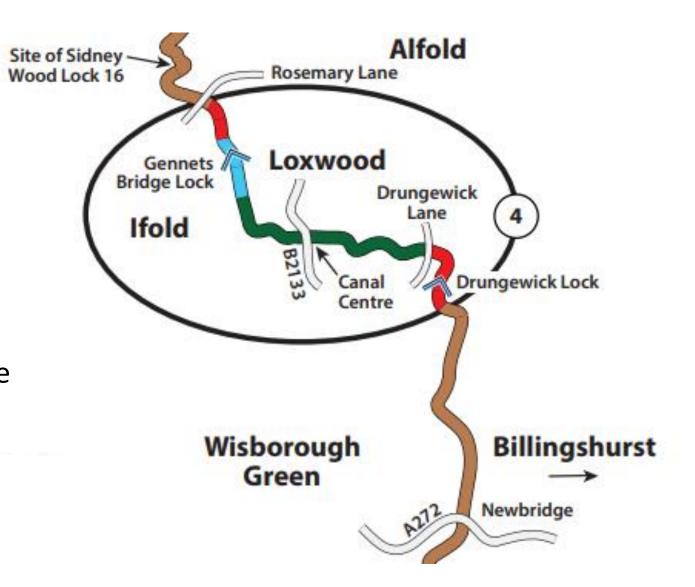
- Footbridge built but long pause waiting for Highways and Utilities approvals
- Procurement of contractor to build the new canal bridge at Dunsfold Road is underway
- Liaison with Thames Water to deliver diversion of water main
- Stage 2: Still in the planning process, ecological assessments underway

### Loxwood

• Bonfire Hanger – see next slide

Long Meadow to Drungewick Lock

 Restoring navigation
 Leak repair and bank profiling
 Dredging and vegetation clearance
 Reopening the footpath



#### **Bonfire Hanger**

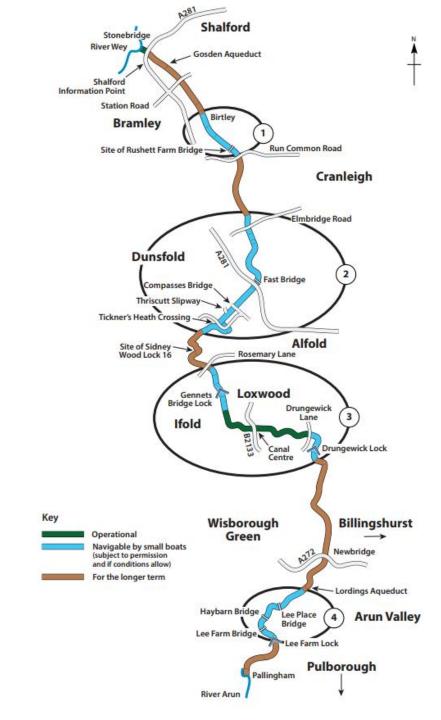
- Forestry work and bridge steps work completed
- Towpath (Bridleway) improvements planned for this summer
- Waverley CIL funding of £45,779 awarded and additional grant of £5,000 from Alfold PC

### 2030 Vision

Aspirational and challenging

Four connected restored sections and useable for small unpowered boats

- Birtley to Run Common
- **Tickner's Heath/Firtree Copse to Rye Farm** with preparation for possible tripboat operation
- Long Meadow to Rosemary Lane
- Lordings to south of Lee Farm Lock



### Land Acquisition

- Over the last few years, we have been able to acquire access to more sections of the canal
- To achieve our Aims, we need to take advantage of further opportunities as they arise
  - □ Renewing existing leases is a priority
  - Second priority is land that helps us achieve our plans and the 2030 vision
- Landowner support has to be earned and privacy respected





### What about other areas ?

- We continue to assess other opportunities which we hope will become the next up priority projects
- Each of these have complexities and
  - Require further planning and engineering assessments before we can confirm as viable
  - Require additional land access (or purchase)
- Several potential projects in our internal planning process:
  - Lee Farm Bridge and canal
  - Bramley Link Phase 1 from River Wey to Gosden Aqueduct
  - Fast Bridge A281 Crossing
  - Summit Reservoir

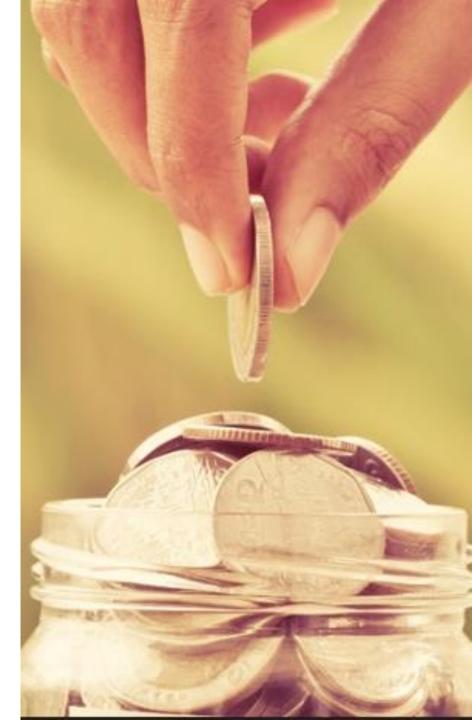
## Funding an increasing challenge

- Maintaining and repairing what we have already done needs funding: more canal in water, means more to maintenance
- A multi-site restoration strategy requires significant funding
- Clearly communicating our plans and the benefits they deliver is key to engaging with new funders and supporters
- We are investing time to better understand grant funding opportunities and ensure we are ready for the next project
- Communications and Fundraising is time consuming and requires a lot of effort to plan, organise and execute



### How can you help us ?

- Help us grow our supporter base
   Share our newsletters and social media posts
   Encourage friends and colleagues to become members and contribute to fundraising appeals
   Do you have contacts with funding groups ?
- Volunteer your time or nudge a younger family member or someone you know to get involved
   Assist with organising events
   Join our Communications and Fundraising team
- Let us know how we can improve our communications



### How can you help us ?

- Make a monthly donation and become a "Milestone Club" member
- Consider leaving us a legacy in your will
- Support our appeals and fundraising events as we advertise them

