

## Overview

The Buxton Footpath Erosion Repair Project was designed and delivered by the Norfolk Rivers Internal Drainage Board (IDB) on behalf of Norfolk County Council's Footpath and Trails team. Actioned under a Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA), the project aimed to address significant bank erosion along the River Bure and improve a key section of the public footpath.

## Work Undertaken

The project focused on restoring approximately 10 meters of the riverbank, which had been worn down over time by foot traffic and dogs entering the water. This erosion had forced users onto a narrow and sloped footpath, creating safety concerns. Restoration efforts included the use of pre-planted coir rolls to stabilise the bank and support ecological recovery. A rock-filled mattress was installed to provide a durable, pet-friendly access point, minimising future damage from water entry. To improve the footpath, Type 1 limestone was used to level and reinstate the surface, ensuring it was hardwearing and accessible for all users.



## Location and Timeline

The work took place in Buxton, Norfolk, along a well-used section of the 'Buxton with Lammas FP4' by the River Bure. Pre-construction surveys informed the approach to habitat-friendly restoration. Construction began during the week of November 11th and was completed within three days, meeting the planned schedule efficiently.

## Community and Environmental Impact

The project has delivered significant benefits to the local community and natural environment. By stabilising the bank and restoring the path, it has improved safety and accessibility for walkers and their pets. The use of eco-friendly techniques has encouraged vegetation growth and enhanced the river's biodiversity. Additionally, the durable design minimises future erosion risks, ensuring the area remains sustainable and enjoyable for future generations while preserving the River Bure's ecological integrity.

**Testimonial:** "As a community we are lucky enough to have benefited from several works on our footpaths and bridges over our water meadows that have been led by the IDB. They understand the importance of the water meadows and river banks and have designed environmentally sensitive works that are also practical. There are not many that can work with the light touch needed that balances environmentally sensitive engineering solutions that enhance and improve the natural environment as well as ensuring we have practical improvements to our critically important footpaths and footbridges. The IDB bring a very special set of practical skills to the work they do, and they really make a difference."



Karen Lawrence, former District Councillor for Buxton Ward

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