

Benefits & Potential Risks identified by Clean, Safe and Green

Benefits of the scheme:

- Increased river flow due to incorporation of spring water which currently does not go into the river.
- Improve Biodiversity and mitigate impact of climate change.
- Public will be able to interact with the river more.
- Reduced Flood Risk.
- Could bring more visitors to the park, which should have a positive effect on the local economy.
- Maintenance of the river should be easier in the long term and short term potentially, and there by save on resources.
- Removal of exiting gauging station and freeing up of the site for use by authority.

Potential Risks:

- Funding shortfall would mean some aspects of the project are not delivered. (Mitigated by EA funding options)
- River project does not obtain planning permission for project works etc.
- River closer to sewage line which does have a tendency to over flow in adverse wet weather conditions. This may lead to the river being potentially polluted. (Scheme should mitigate)
- Timings could affect the park when it is the height of the summer and the park is at capacity. This could be due to poor planning or project overrun due to climatic or unknown reasons. (Mitigated by timeline of onsite works concentrated in one phase over a 6-8 week period from April to July 2022. The onsite works are required within this period to comply with fish spawning season, potential water vole breeding season, reduced effect of inclement weather whilst major construction of new channel.
- Flooding and proximity of the river to the new play area and splash park. (Mitigated in the scheme)
- Potential to flood the bowls club due to proximity. (Mitigated in the scheme)
- May have an impact on the existing biodiversity in the current river location? (Mitigated by the long term benefits of the project)
- New location of the river will cut through the high use area of the park, and cut the park into two areas. Mitigated by provision of new footbridges and footpaths infrastructure within the scheme).
- Loss of revenue income during construction because of events not being able to take place. (Minimised by concentrated timeline and impact from the project.)

- Overall impact on the parks aesthetics because of the project and the construction works.
(Mitigated within the scheme with landscaping and making good the topography within the park.)