

# 12D. THE RIVER AVON PARK (5/5)

DUNDAS

CLAVERTON

BATHAMPTON

**BATH**

SALTFORD

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## PROJECT CONCEPT

Brassmill Green is situated to the north of Weston Island and the Canal beside Weston Lock, on the south side of Brassmill Lane. The site consists of 3 open spaces divided by fencing and a private residence, with no clear entrance from the road. With the exception of playground furniture the space lacks clear uses for residents and visitors that pass through the site. There is no defined entrance to the site from Brassmill Lane, with no pedestrian footpath which limits the accessibility of nearby residents into the space.

The footpath becomes increasingly narrow downstream heading west making cycling and walking difficult.

The historic nature of the area combined with the ecological richness of Weston Island makes the site an opportune spot for a multi-functional leisure space for both local residents and visitors.

The pocket park adjoins the Rotork factory site which is proposed to be redeveloped (2017), the development proposal includes improved overlooking of the space with a new riverside cafe proposed, new path links and new benches and planting etc.



Outline Proposals

**1** Unclear connectivity with surroundings/poorly defined entrances.



**2** Poorly defined park area with low quality play equipment. Fencing creates unnecessary division between spaces



**A** Tree canopies thinned to enhance visibility. Seating areas in spots with desirable views towards the river.



**B** Widened river pathway – material to co-ordinate with wider linear park.



**C** Upgraded play area for visitors and local residents, with flexible open green space for sports and recreational activities



## ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- **Enhanced Functionality** – There is an opportunity to create interesting linked spaces for informal sport, but also to create an entrance space to the River Park where you can enjoy boats moving through Weston Lock.
- **Environmental Enhancement** – Improvements to the play area provision, perhaps with some natural play and diversifying the planting to include more marginal species and meadow grassland areas to break up the close mown appearance of the park.
- **Visual Intervisibility** – Create clear views of the river from surrounding areas to encourage movement with selective tree works
- **A Sense of Place** – views to the Lock and Weir create an attractive draw to this location, proximity to pubs and the brewery also mean this is an attractive entrance to the River Park.

**3** Grass with low biodiversity and functional value. Narrow footways difficult for users. Impact on biodiversity.



**4** Private residence splits the site into two halves with little connection linking the spaces



**D** Integrated and clear entrance points with Way finding/direction information



**E** Meadow grassland provide more value to pollinating insects and wildlife, a more naturalistic character

