



# Tawd Valley Park Masterplan Summary Report

Prepared by  
Groundwork and  
Ryder Landscape Consultants

for  
West Lancashire Borough Council

October 2017



# Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<i>Page 03</i>
<b>Overall Objectives</b>	<i>Page 04</i>
<b>Proposed Masterplan</b>	<i>Page 05</i>
<b>Precedents</b>	<i>Page 24</i>
<b>Visualisations</b>	<i>Page 26</i>
<b>Appendix:</b>	
1. Masterplan ( <u><a href="#">317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1000</a></u> )	
2. Zoning Plan ( <u><a href="#">317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1003</a></u> )	
3. Signage Strategy ( <u><a href="#">317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1001</a></u> )	
4. Pathworks Plan ( <u><a href="#">317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1002</a></u> )	
5. Orienteering Route Plan ( <u><a href="#">317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1004</a></u> )	

# Introduction

This report has been prepared as part of the Tawd Valley Park Masterplan proposals. Its function is to explain:

- The process undertaken to develop proposals for the park; and
- The proposals themselves.

## Process to arrive at these proposals

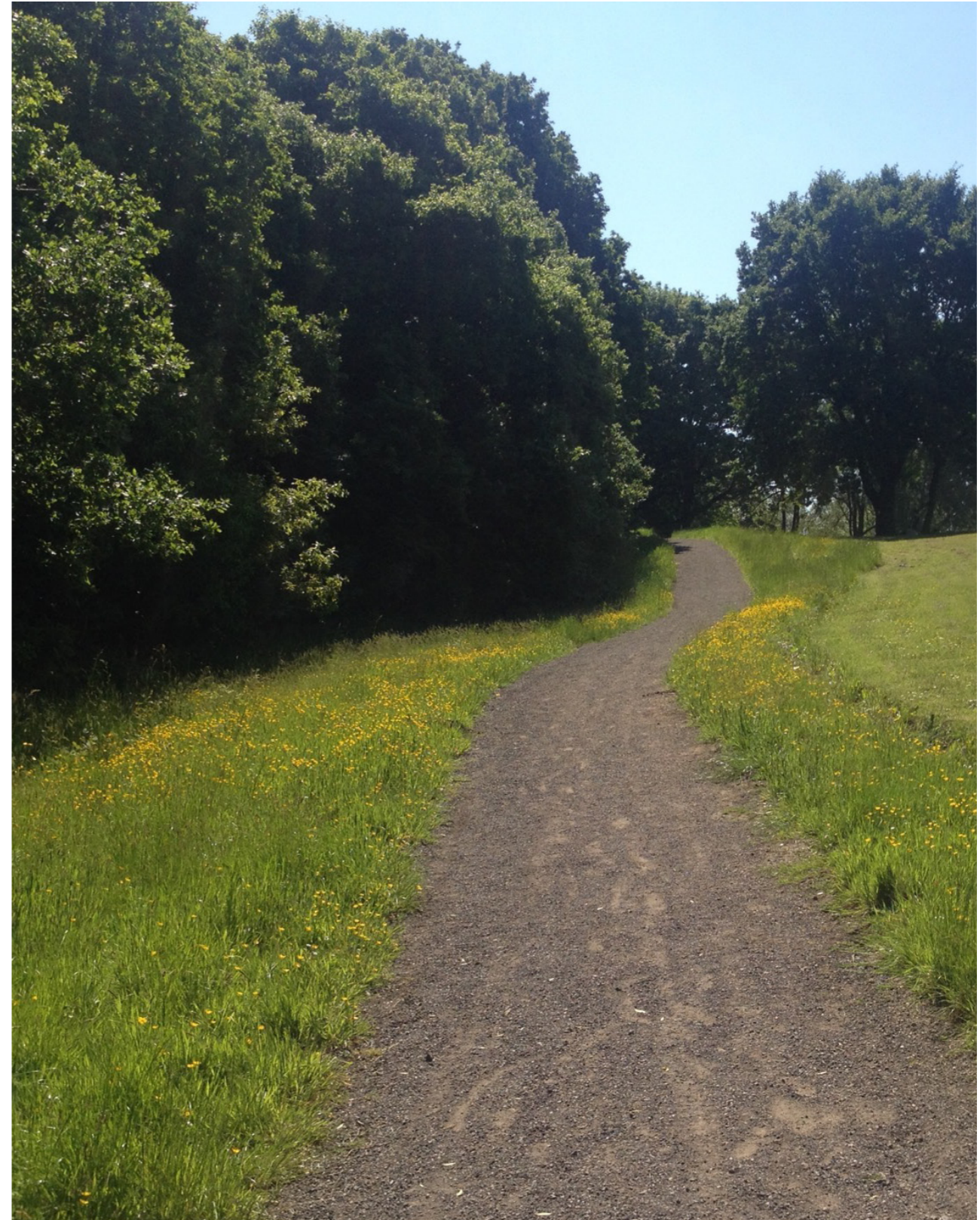
The development of the Masterplan has been a collaborative process between West Lancashire Borough Council, Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire & Merseyside and Ryder Landscape Consultants.

As part of the process site surveys were undertaken to review existing site conditions, historical mapping examined, and current strategies investigated.

A public consultation has been conducted by the West Lancashire Borough Council and this information has been fed into the design process.

A proposed pathworks drawing prepared by Lancashire County Council has been adopted and incorporated into the proposals.

The Masterplan has been prepared along with other, more specific proposals including Zoning Plan, Pathworks Plan, Signage Strategy and Orienteering Route.



One of the Valley's unbound footpaths running through a meadow glade.

# Overall Objectives

- Be a fun, safe place to visit;
- Encourage local people to visit the Park with new activities for various age groups;
- Be as accessible for users with lower mobility levels;
- Promote the Park's heritage by reinstating historical paths and landscape features;
- Improve the maintenance of the River Tawd and promote water related activities;
- Retain existing areas of ecological interest and the overall "wild" character of the Park;
- Enhance existing habitat and create new habitat types; and
- Be straight-forward and cost efficient to manage and maintain.



A place for all levels of mobility



A place for exercise and fun



A place that respects existing wildlife



A place with new habitats

# Proposed Masterplan

This report explains in detail the proposed interventions and should be read in conjunction with the Masterplan Drawing 317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1000.

For pathworks details and signage strategy refer to drawings: 317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1001 and 317-RYD-XX-XX-DR-L-1002.

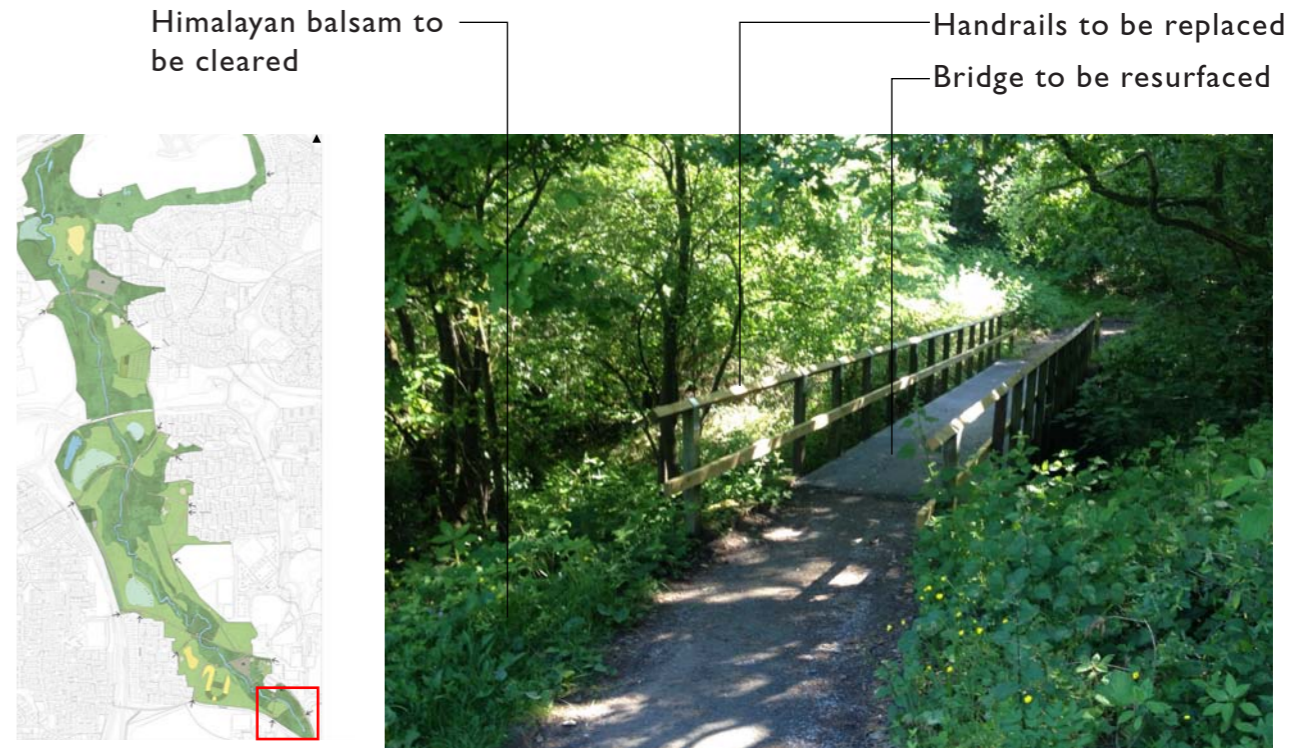


**Masterplan - October 2017**

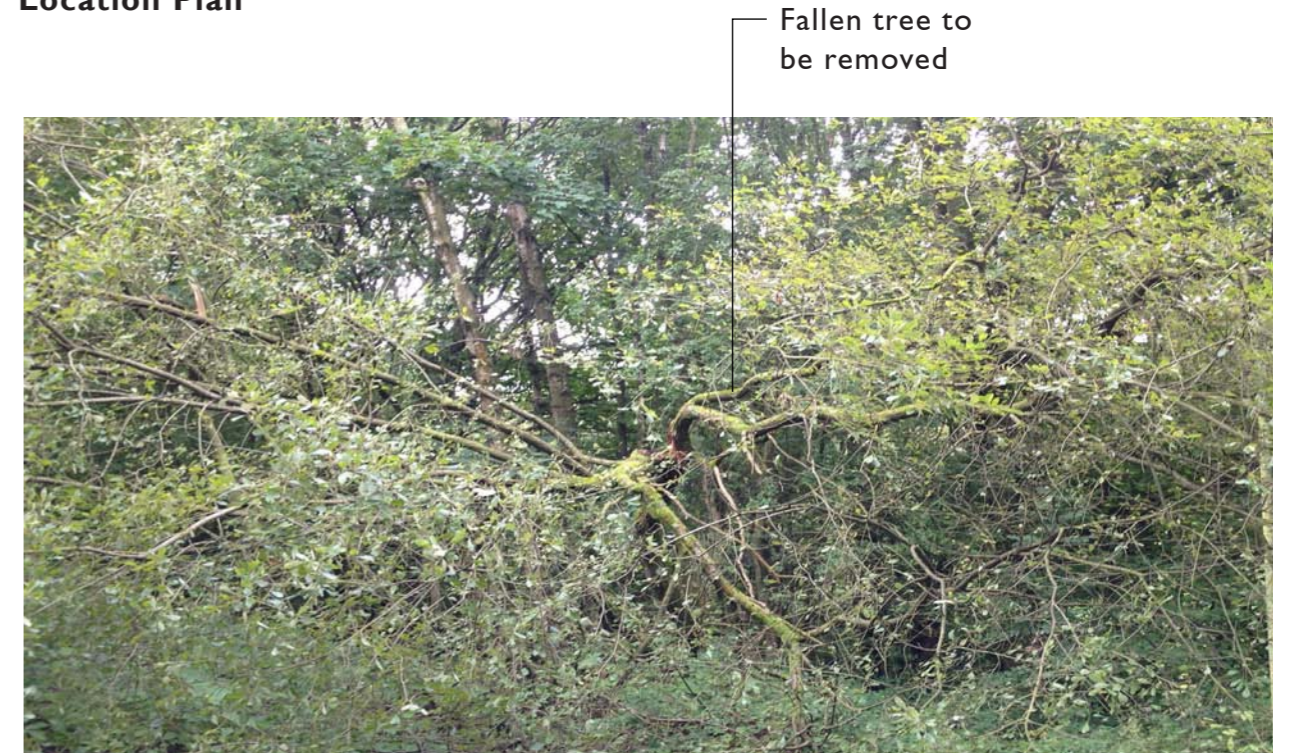
A reduced version of the overall masterplan.  
Best read on an A0 plan at 1:2000 scale. 5

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



Location Plan



1. Existing pedestrian path:  
 - clear path surface;  
 - inspect lighting column;  
 - remove fallen trees;  
 - install litter bin; and  
 - new side planting.

2. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
 - replace railing and flooring timbers.  
 3. Trees along the river banks  
 - remove fallen trees and overhanging branches to clear out views to the river.

4. Former concrete signage:  
 - to be utilised as building material for new signage.  
 5. Existing steps:  
 - handrail to be repainted.

6. Existing sycamore tree  
 - to be crown lifted.  
 7. Existing invasive vegetation  
 - clear Himalayan balsam.

8. Existing path:  
 - to be resurfaced.  
 9. Proposed new accessible path.  
 10. Proposed new pathlink

11. Existing steps to be refurbished.  
 12. Potential new signage/ information board

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal

Lighting column to be inspected and repaired or replaced as required

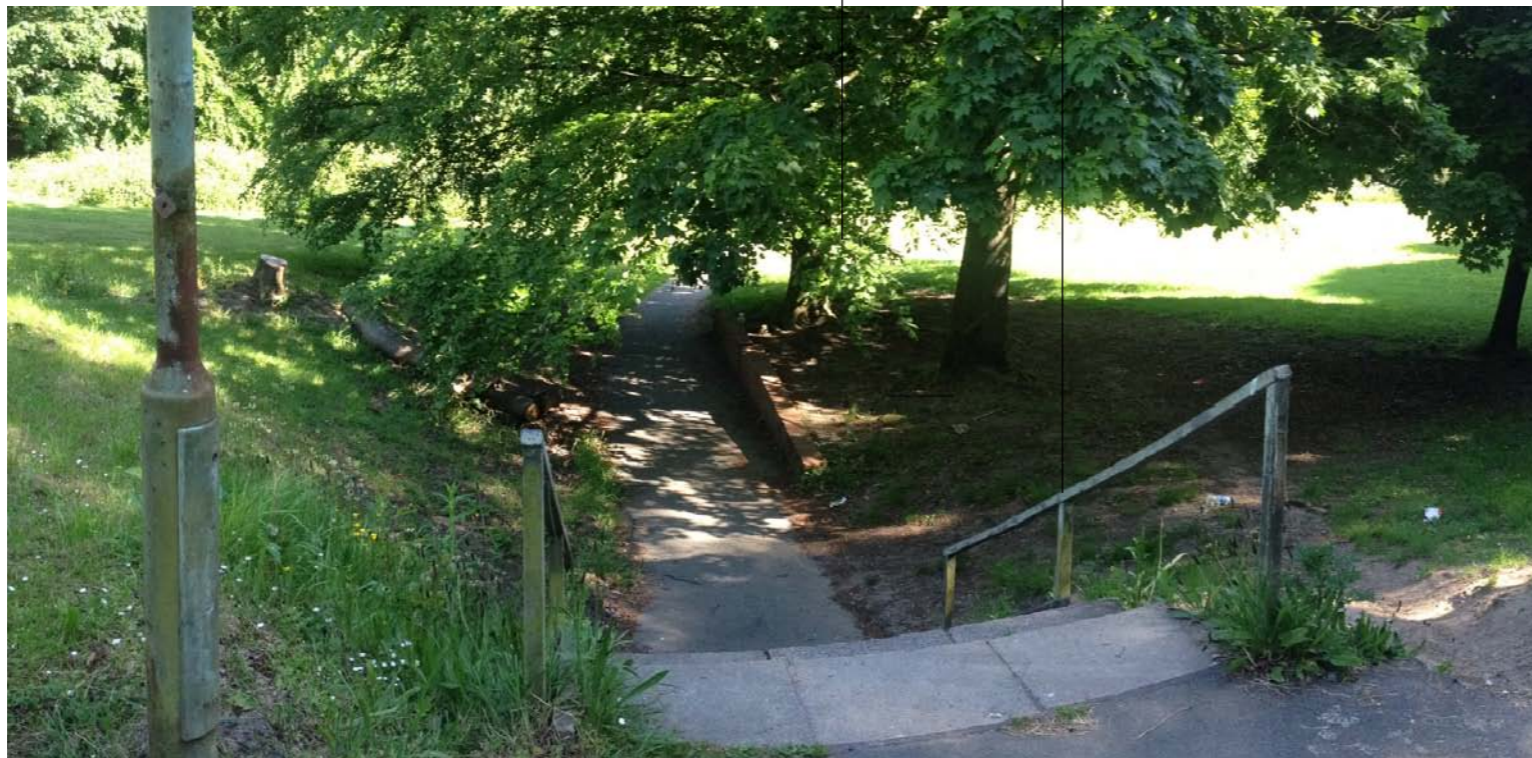


Overhanging branches and trees on river banks to be cleared to allow views to the river



Sycamore tree to be crown lifted

Handrail to be repainted

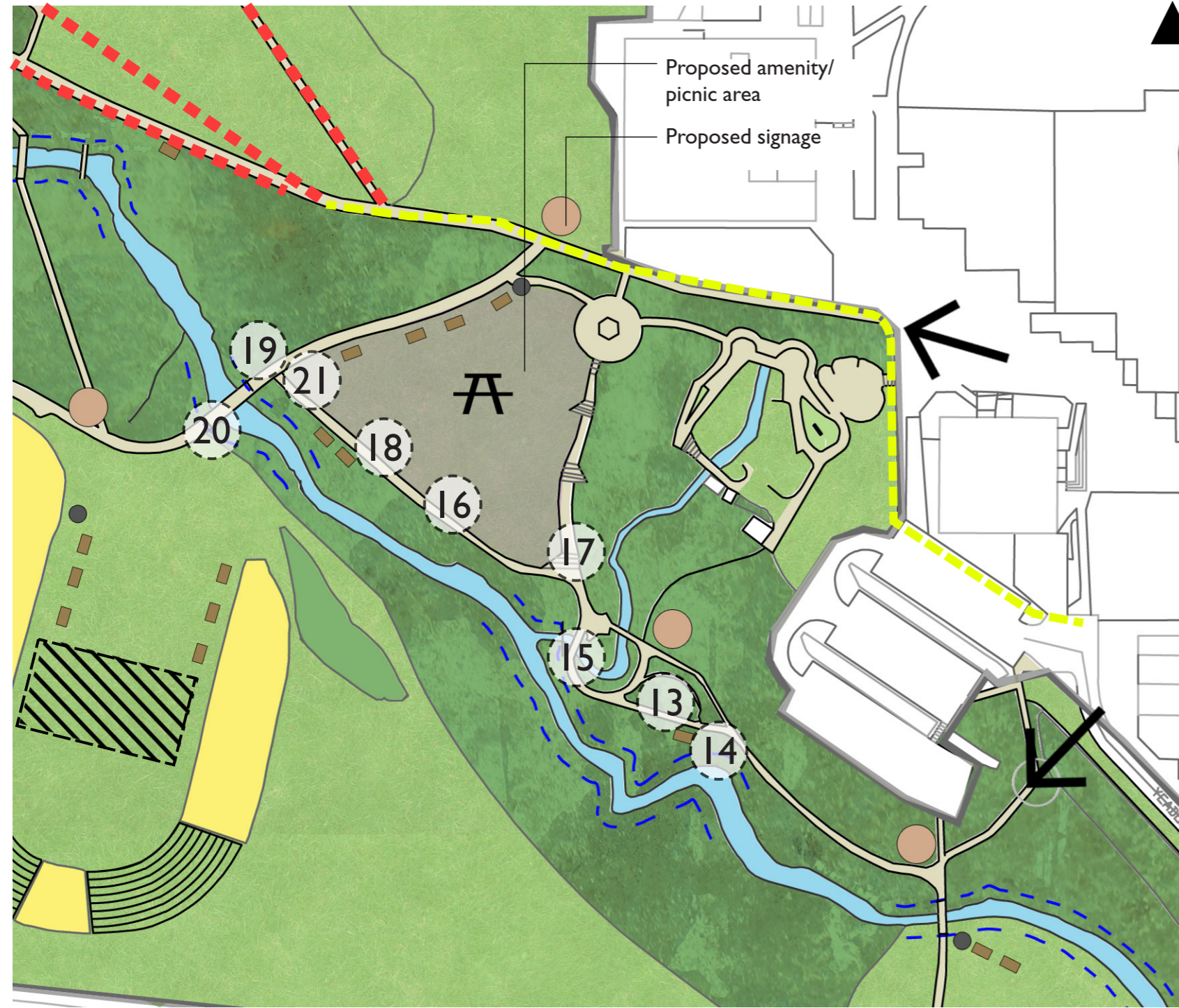


Former concrete signage to be utilised as background for new signage



# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



Location Plan



Existing landscape feature to be recreated with planting

Area 13



Tree to be removed from river

Area 14

13. Existing landscape feature:  
- clear Himalayan balsam;  
- feature to be recreated with new planting.

14. River Tawd:  
- clear water course;  
- clear vegetation area.

15. Existing pedestrian bridge (x2):  
- handrails to be replaced.

16. Existing pathway:  
- clear vegetation to original tarmac edge to re-establish full width.

17. Existing stone flag path:  
- clear path.

18. Existing vegetation along river banks  
- clear vegetation to allow views to the river.

19. Existing signage:  
- refurbish signage.

20. Existing bridge:  
- repaint railings with new colour palette.

21. Existing dog waste bin:  
- remove and replace with new bin.



**Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale**

Masterplan Proposal

Path to be cleared of vegetation to existing tarmac edge



Area 16

Overhanging branches and trees to be cleared from the river

Railings to be repainted with new colour palette

Dog waste bin to be removed and replaced with new bin



Areas 19, 20 & 21

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal

Proposed amenity/  
picnic area



Handrails on bridges  
to be replaced



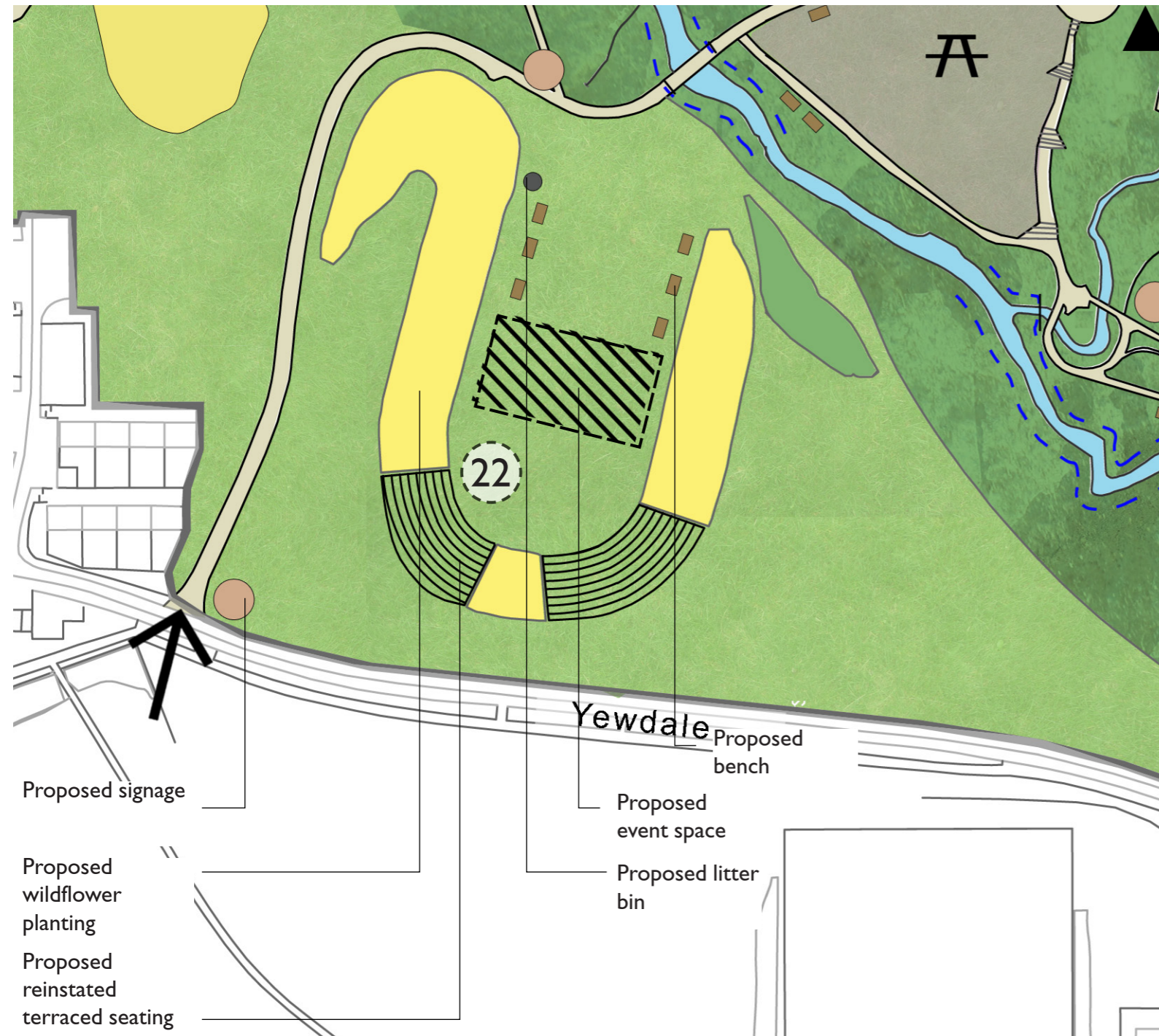
Flagstone path to be  
cleared



Area 17

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



22. Existing amphitheatre:
- remove planting from bank;
  - plant new wildflower meadow;
  - reinstate existing terraced seating;
  - create a performance area with electrical supply;
  - create a seating area with bench provision;
  - improve drainage system.



Location Plan



Vegetation to be removed



Vegetation to be removed

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

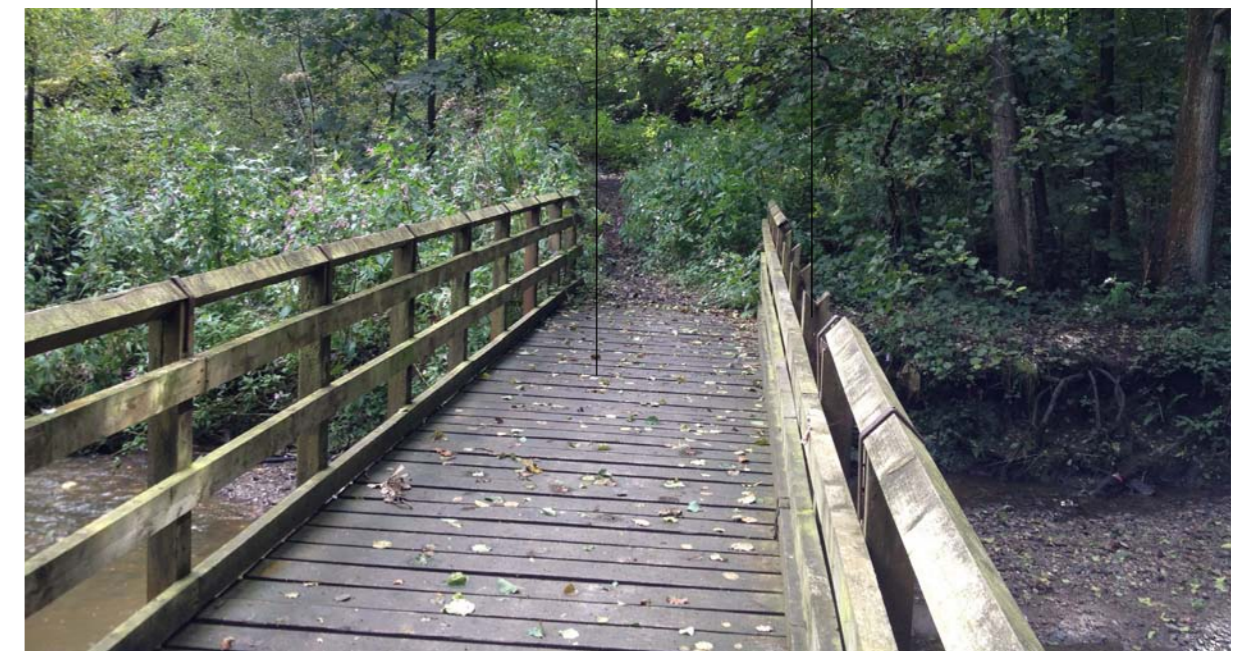
## Masterplan Proposal



Location Plan



Trees to be crown lifted



Bridge to be resurfaced with non-slip surface

Handrails to be replaced

23. Existing concrete feature:  
- to be utilised as building material for new signage.

24. Proposed new footpath link.

25. Proposed wildflower meadow.

26. Existing trees:  
- to be crown lifted.

27. Existing footpath:  
- to be refurbished where needed.

28. Existing trees:  
- lower limbs to be lifted.

29. Potential new signage.

30. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- handrails to be painted.

31. Potential reinstatement of historic footpath.

32. Existing footpath:  
- to be resurfaced as parts of Lancashire County Council planned path works.

33. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- resurface with non-slip surface; and  
- replace handrails.

34. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- replace handrails.

35. Existing footpath  
- to be resurfaced as part of Lancashire County Council planned path works.

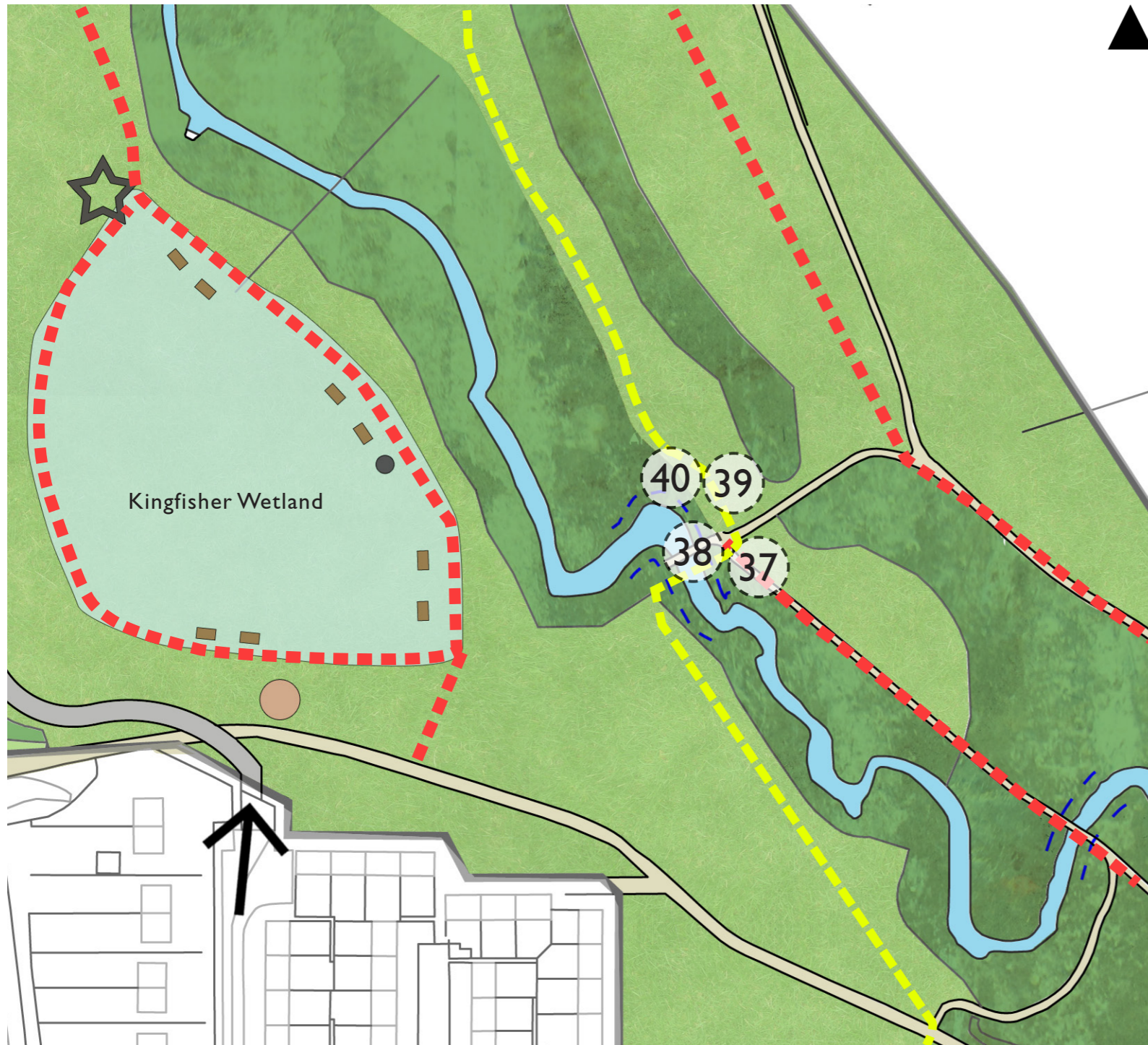
36. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- sand and finish timber.



Proposed new hard surface footpath

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal

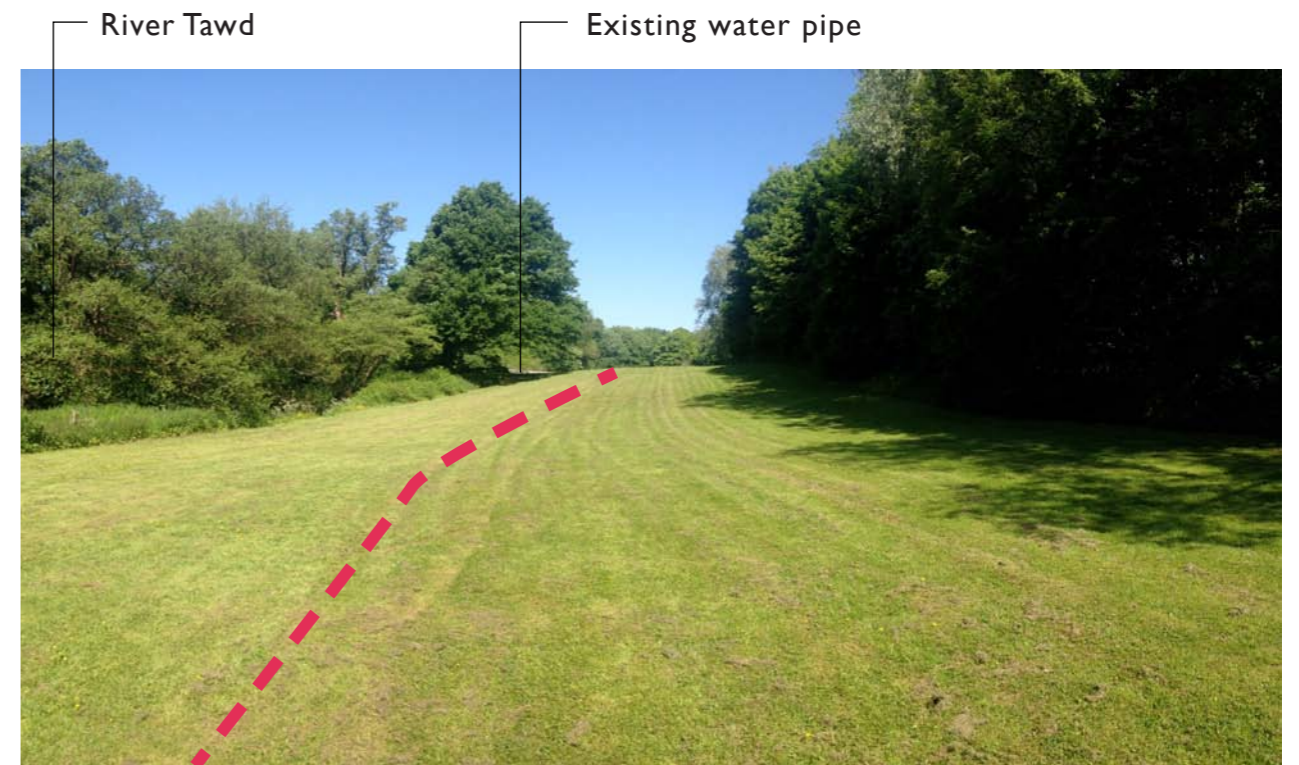


Location Plan



Sign to be retained

Sign to be removed



Photograph taken on site, looking north towards existing water pipe. New footpath to be installed as part of the Lancashire County Council planned path works.

37. Existing footpath  
- to be cleared.

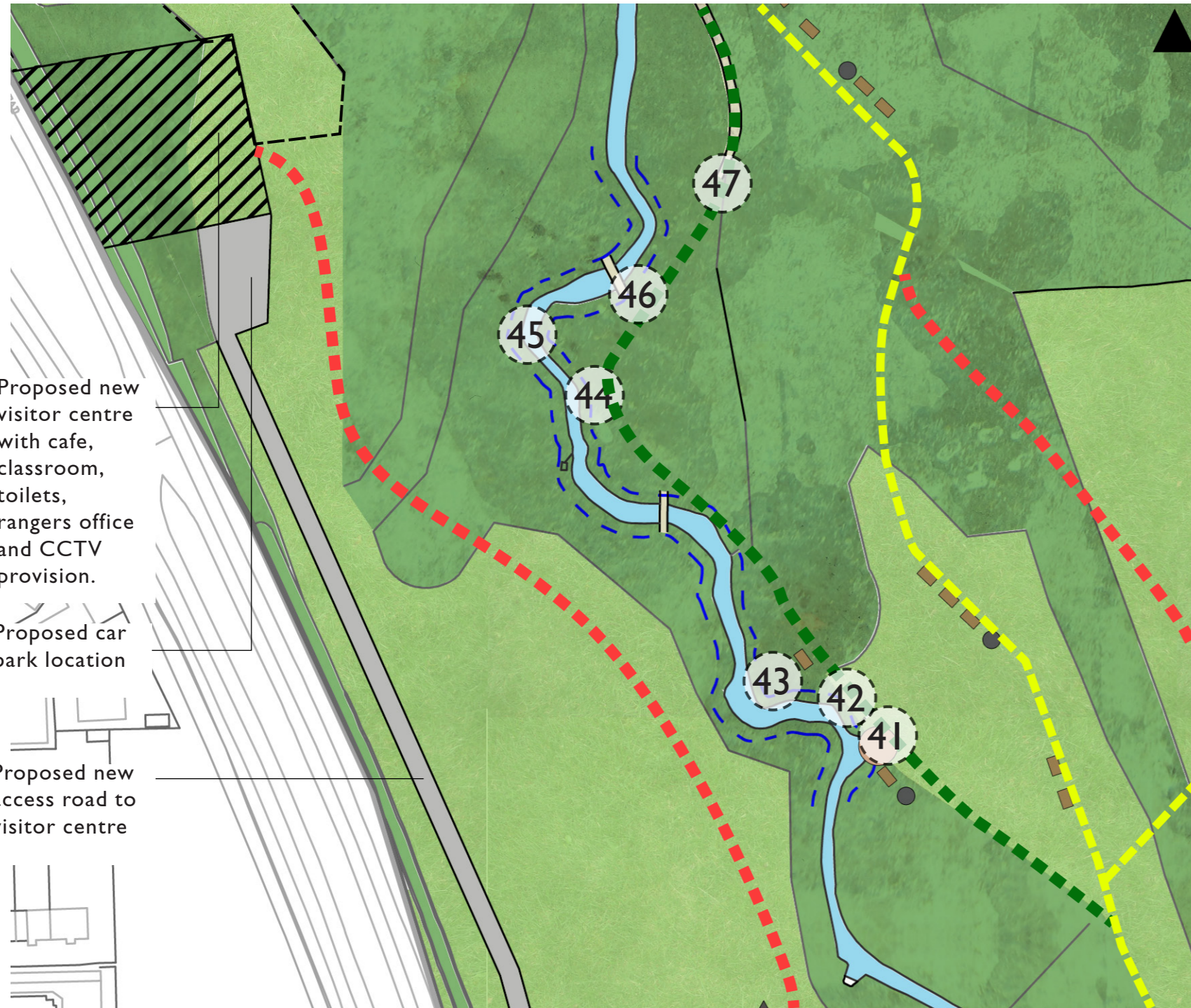
38. Existing vegetation on river banks  
- clear to allow views to the river.

39. Existing signage:  
- remove damaged sign;  
- retain anti-motorcycle sign.

40. Existing overgrown vegetation:  
- clear vegetation from bridge and sides.

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



Proposed new visitor centre with cafe, classroom, toilets, rangers office and CCTV provision.

Proposed car park location

Proposed new access road to visitor centre

41. Heritage Mill race area:  
- to be cleared; and  
- new steps to be installed.

42. Existing stepping stones to be repositioned and/or new stepping stones to be placed in the river.  
43. Fallen tree to be removed.

44. Existing vegetation on river banks:  
- clear to allow sight of landscape feature.  
45. Tree to be cleared from the river.

46. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- replace handrails and treads.  
47. Existing footpath:  
- clear path surface;  
- clear overhanging branches.



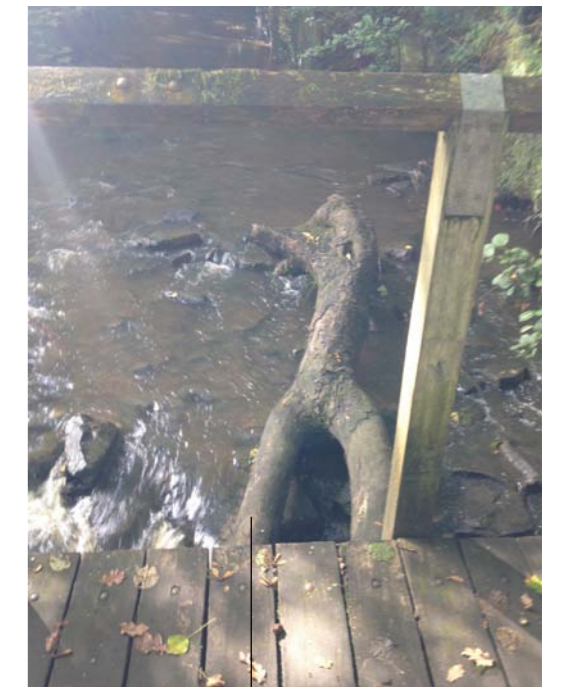
Location Plan



Vegetation to be cleared to allow views to the landscape feature



Fallen tree to be removed



Tree to be removed from the river

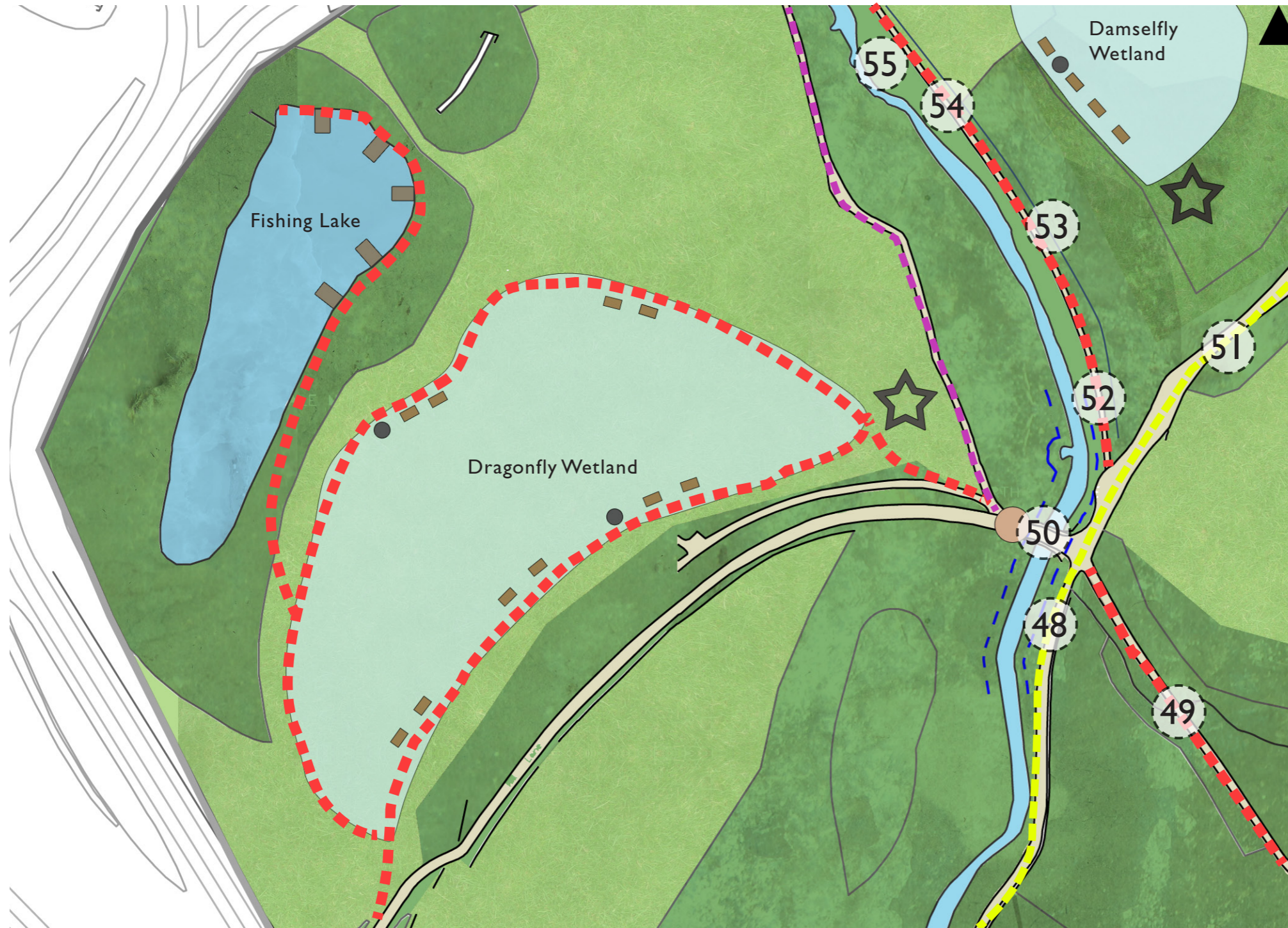


Existing stepping stones to be repositioned and/or new stepping stones to be placed in the river.



# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



Location Plan

Gate to be renewed  
Vegetation to be cleared  
New signage and map board to be installed



Overhanging branches to be cleared



48. Existing trees:  
- clear overhanging branches.

49. Existing tarmac footpath:  
- to be resurfaced.

50. Existing bridge:  
- clear path, remove overhanging branches;  
- clear vegetation from the bridge;  
- renew gate; and  
- install new signage and map board.

51. Proposed new path as per Lancashire County Council planned pathworks.

52. Existing Footpath  
- to be resurfaced with hard surfacing;  
- drainage to be inspected.

53. Existing drainage channel:  
- signs of surface water pollution (to be further investigated).

54. Existing pathway:  
- even out surface;  
- install drainage slots.

55. Fallen tree:  
- to be cleared.

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal

Existing, recently resurfaced path



Tarmac footpath to be resurfaced



Signs of surface water pollution to be further investigated



Fallen tree to be removed

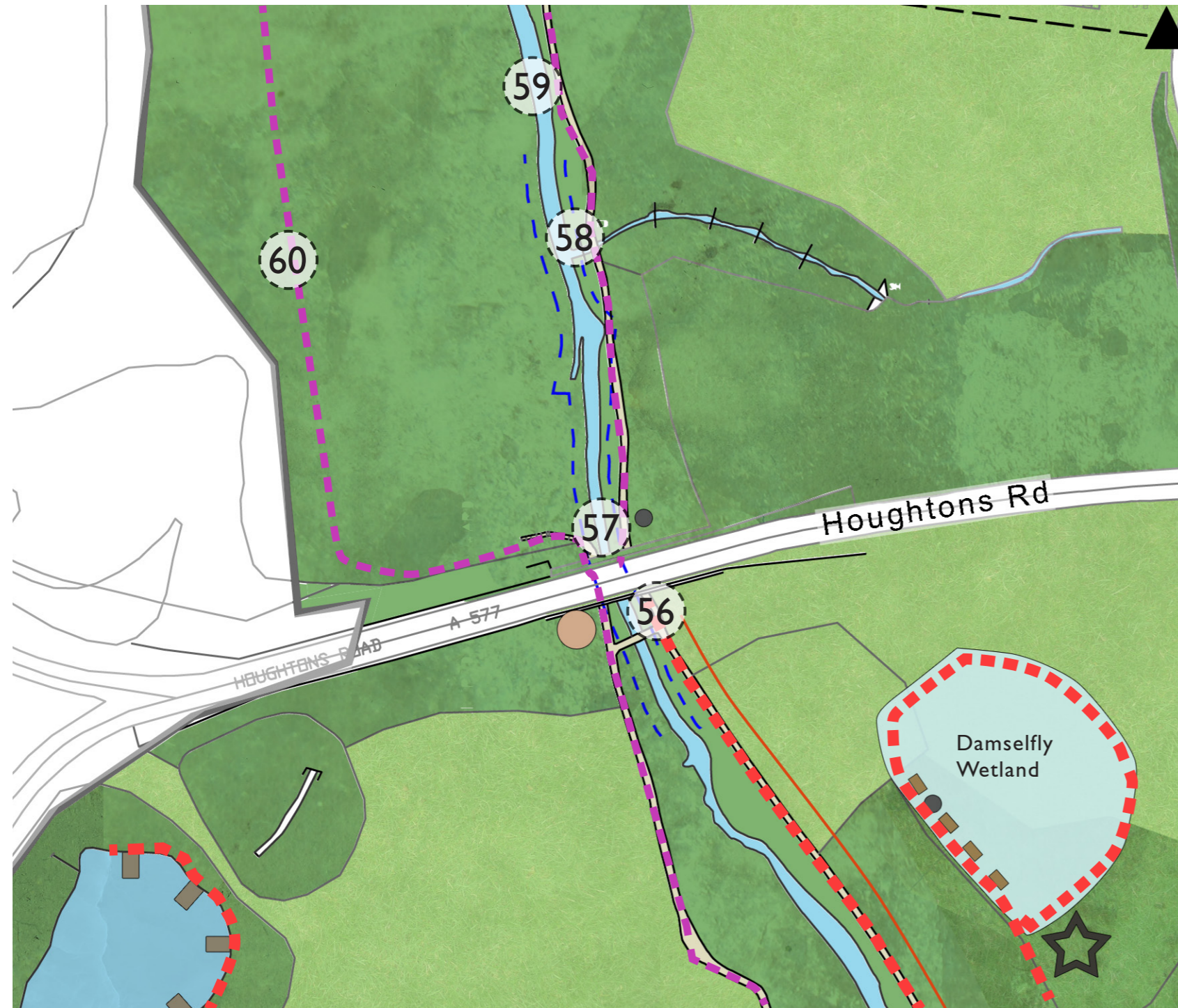


Overhanging branches and vegetation on river banks to be cleared



# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



56. Existing pathway:  
- to be resurfaced and regraded under the bridge.

57. River to be cleared of rubbish.

58. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- install new handrails.

59. Trees to be removed from the river.

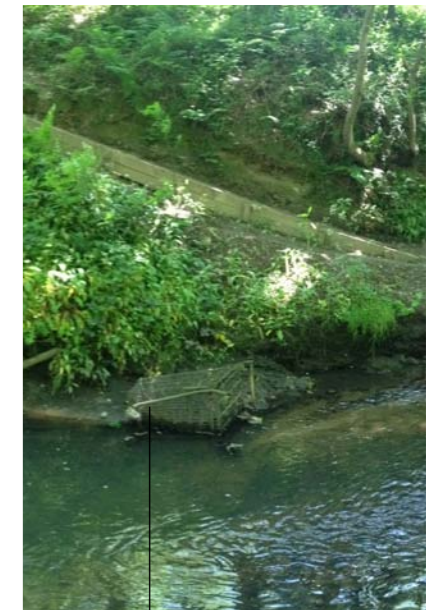
60. Proposed new heritage route.



Location Plan



Trees to be removed from river



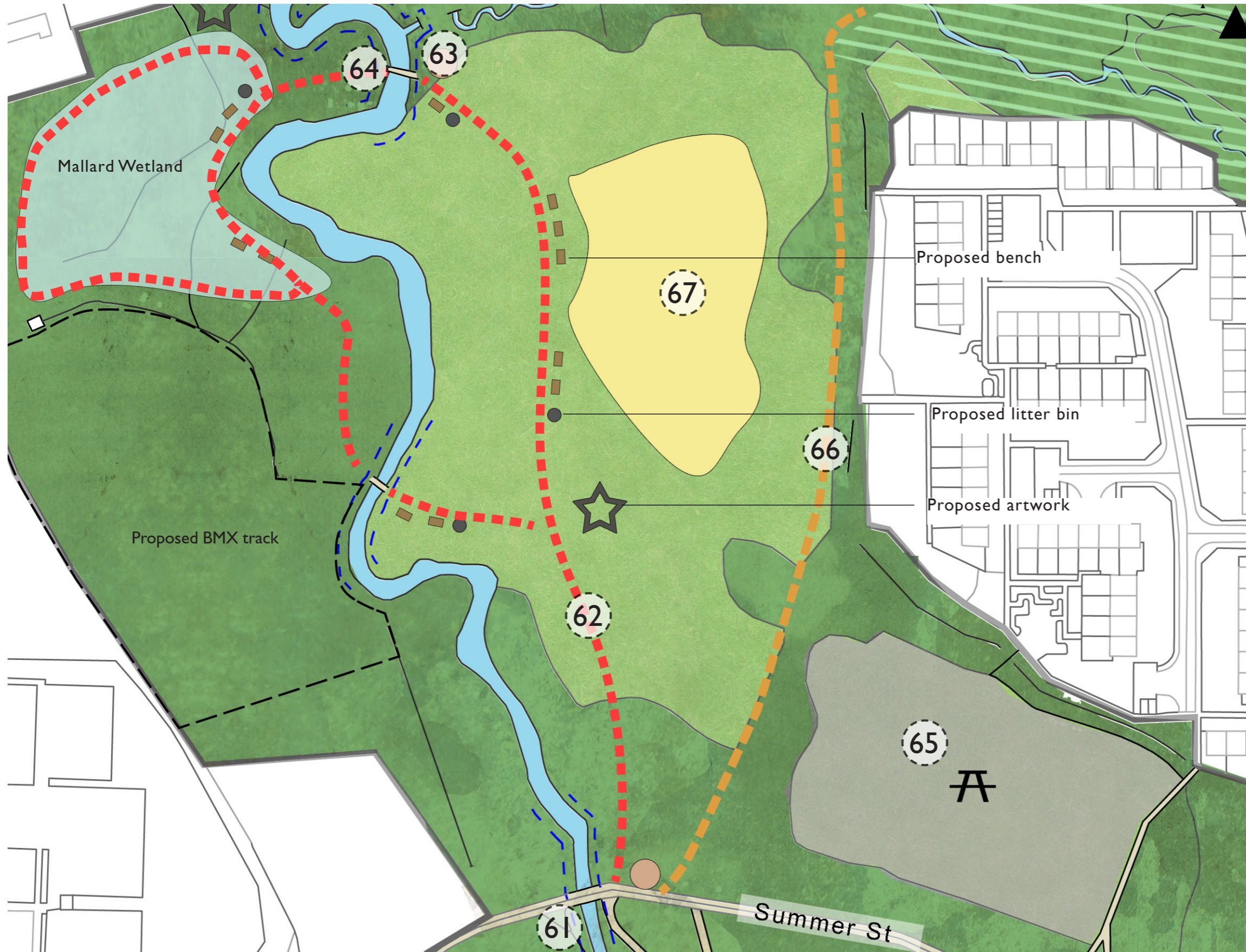
Rubbish to be removed from river



Pathway under bridge to be regraded and resurfaced

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

## Masterplan Proposal



**Location Plan**

- 61. Proposed new signage.
- 62. Proposed new artwork trail; path to receive new surface.
- 63. Existing drainage pipe:  
- to be reset and new surface installed.
- 64. Existing pedestrian bridge:  
- to be refurbished.
- 65. Proposed new amenity/  
picnic area.
- 66. Proposed reinstated  
heritage route.
- 67. Proposed wildflower  
planting.



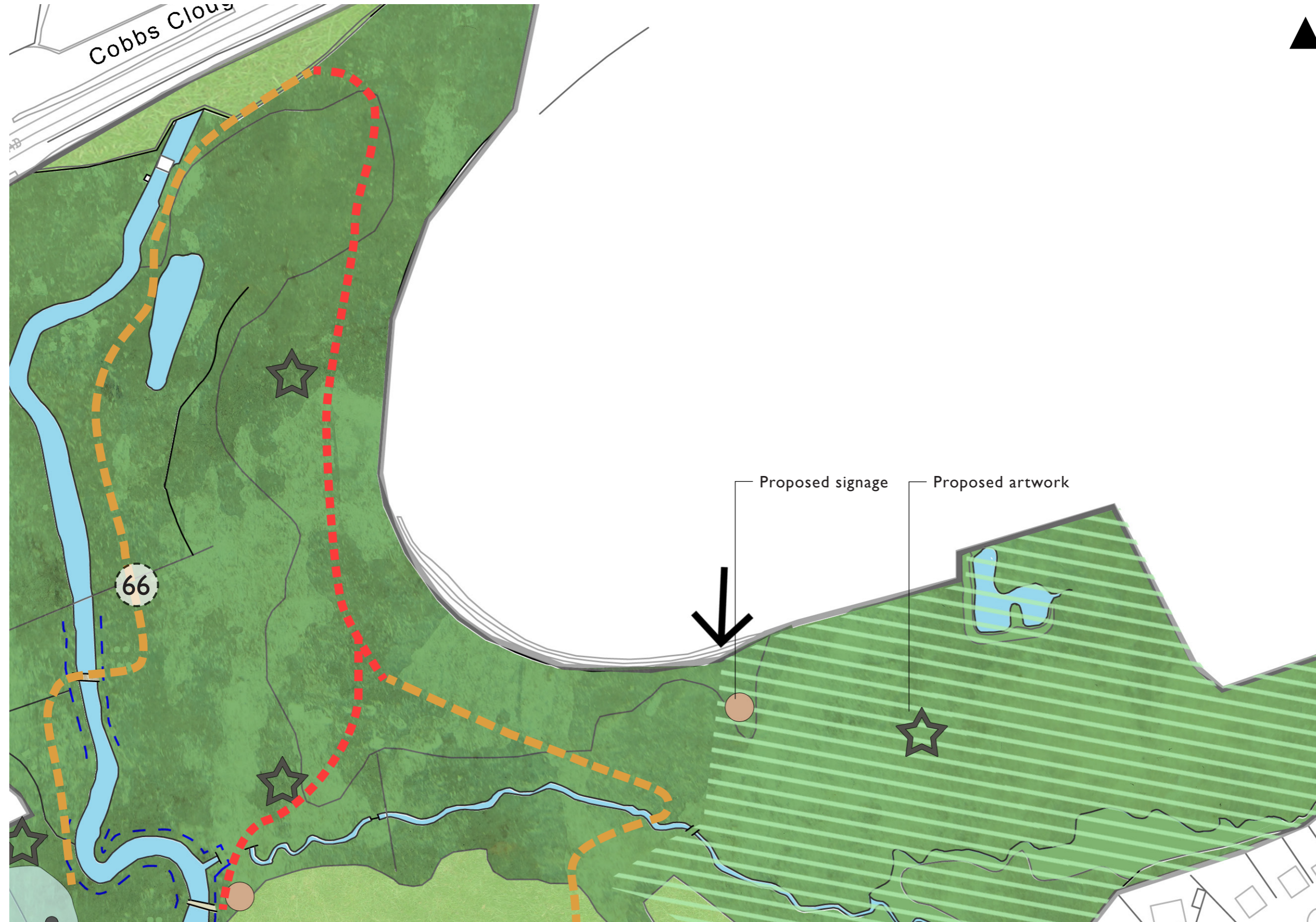
Proposed artwork trail;  
path to receive new  
surface



Drainage pipe to be reset  
and resurfaced

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

Masterplan Proposal



Location Plan

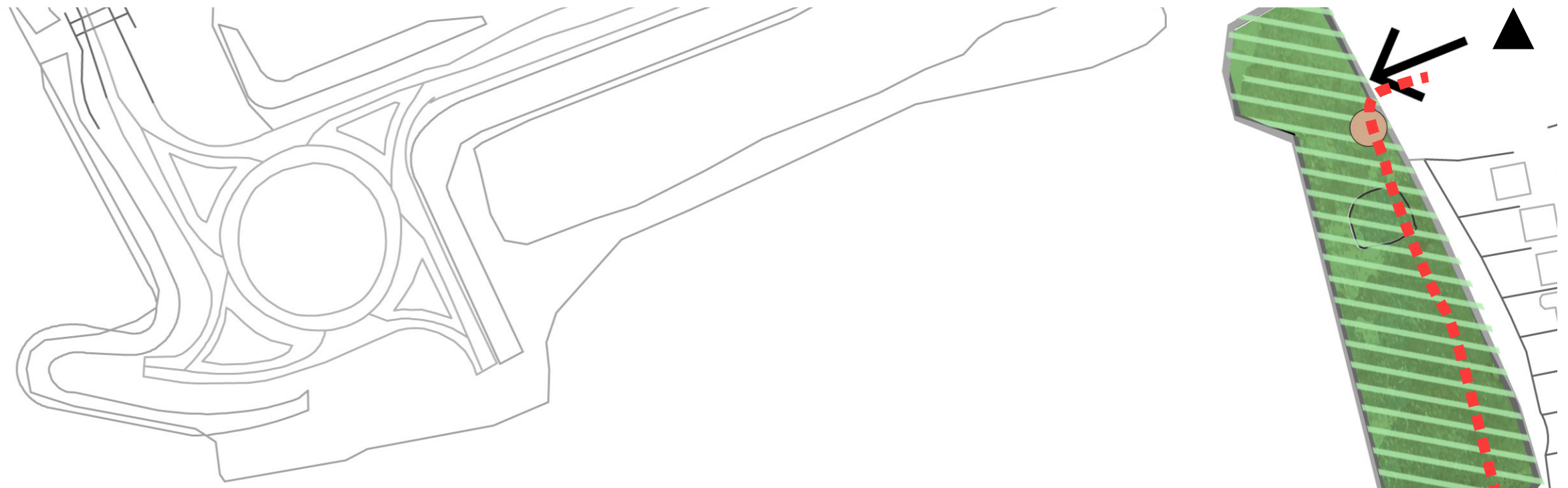
66. Proposed reinstated heritage route

# Tawd Valley, Skelmersdale

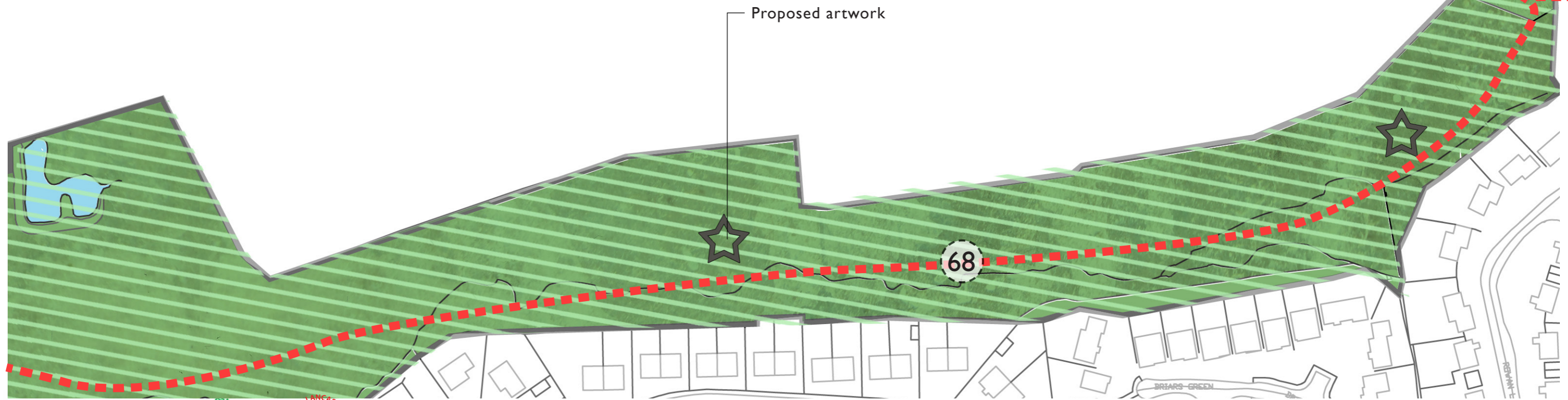
## Masterplan Proposal



Location Plan



68. Proposed artwork trail/pathlink to new development



# Precedent Images

Signage



Visitor Centre





# Precedent Images

Woodland play



Wooden Sculptures



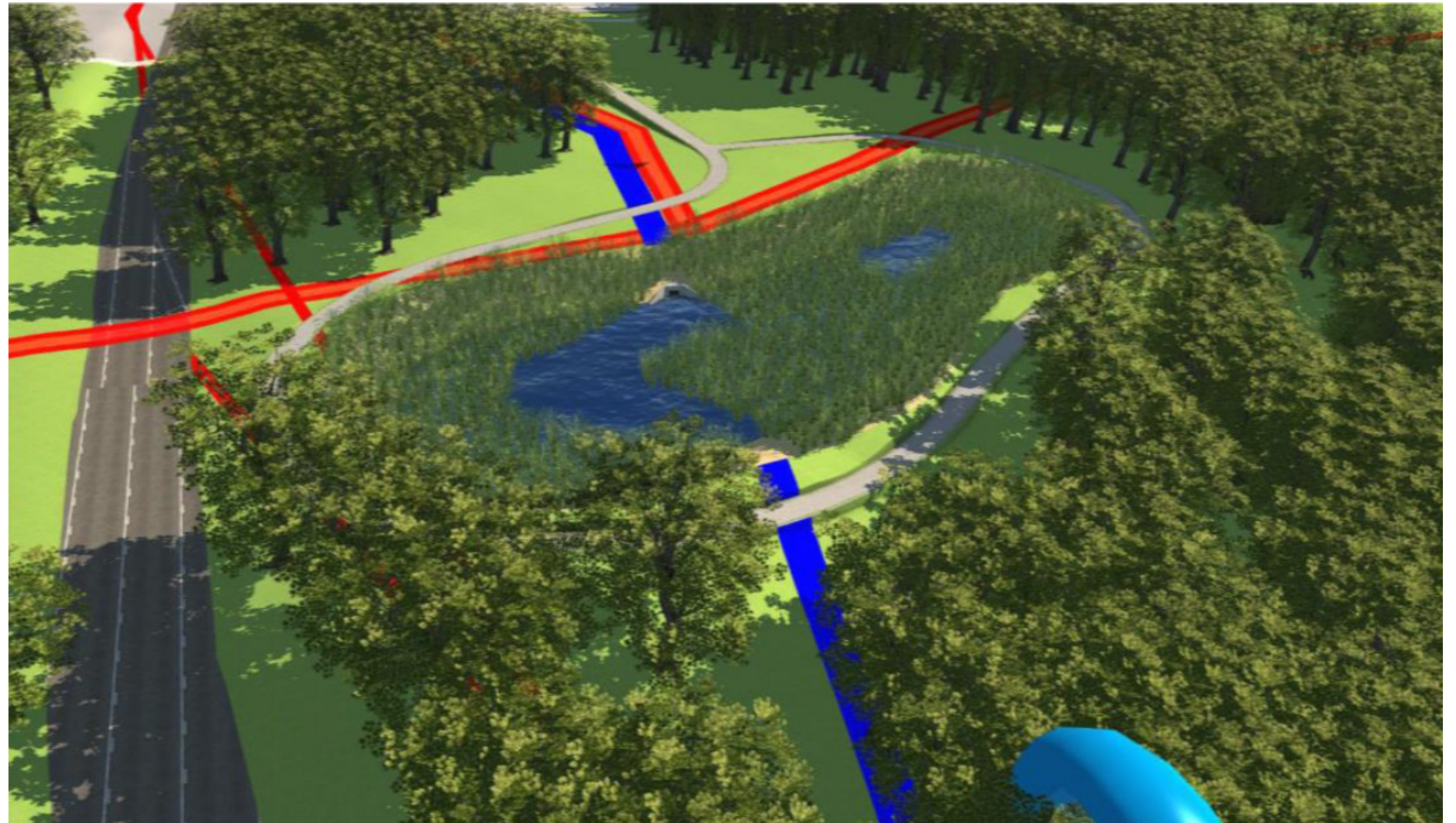
# Visualisations

## SuDS

New wetlands will be created as part of a new Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS). These will intercept surface water and clear it naturally before it reaches the river. These ponds and reed beds will also provide scenic picnic rest areas.

The image to the right is an artist's impression of one of the new proposed wetlands. The photograph below shows the proposed location of the Damsely Wetland.

Visualisation and photo of location as per JBA High Level Design Report (July 2017).



## BMX and Mountain Biking Track

Creation of a bmx/mountain biking track. This will offer a wide range of challenges to cater for all ages and abilities to enjoy.

Visualisation as per Trail Craft Report 202 (April 2015).

