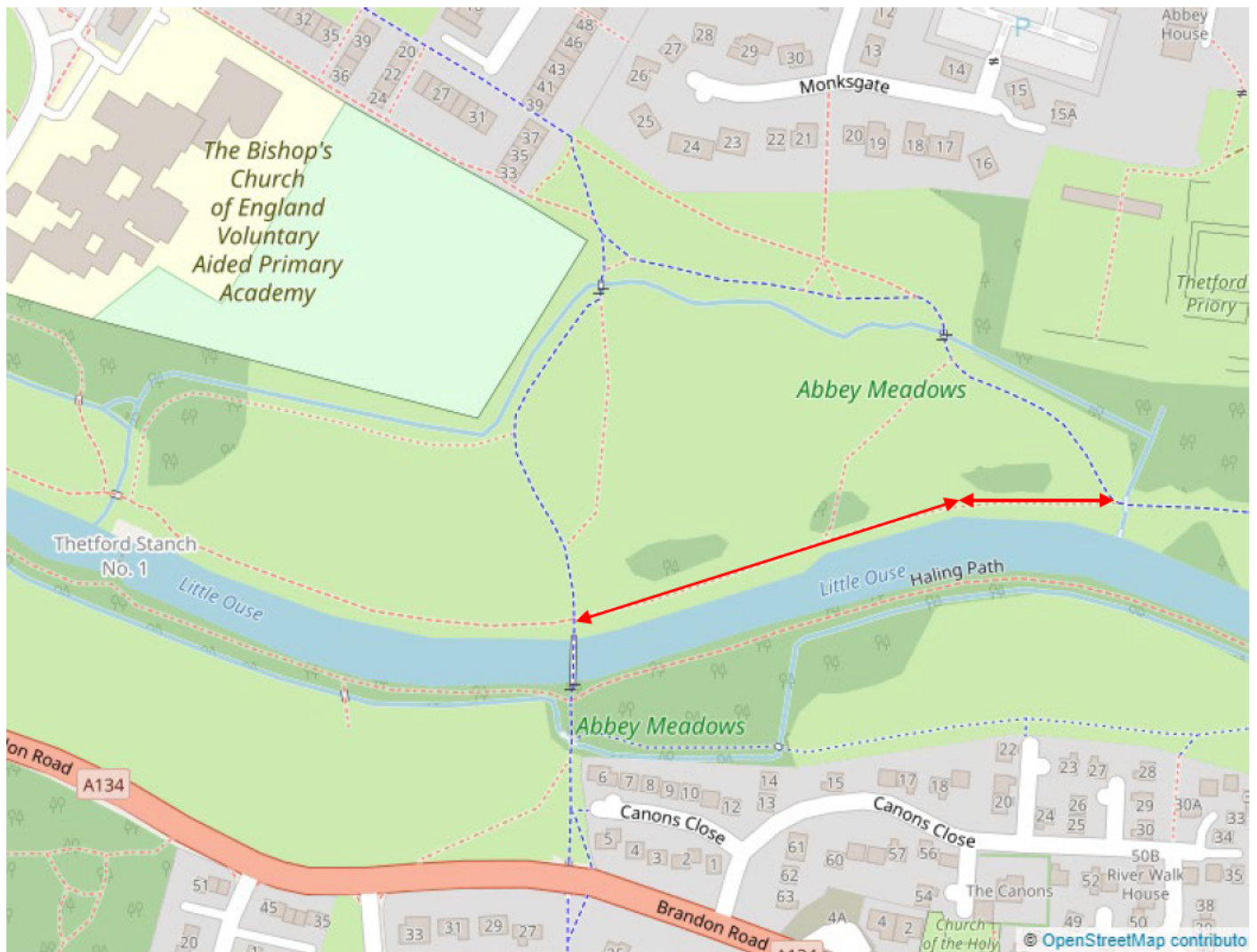


## Parish Partnership bid application form

<b>Fund applied for:</b>	Parish Partnership Fund		
<b>Applicant details:</b>	Thetford Town Council		
<b>Submitted by/contact:</b>	Mark Webster		
<b>Phone Number:</b>	07553 388 551		
<b>Email</b>	markwebster@thetfordtowncouncil.gov.uk		
<b>Sum applied for:</b>	£9,000		
<b>Total project cost:</b>	£18,000		
<b>Project title:</b>	Blaydon Path		
<b>Project detail:</b> (please include a plan/map of the extents of the scheme):	Installing a new Breedon Gravel path on the north side of the Little Ouse river from the Blaydon Bridge to the small pedestrian bridge on the path to the Priory in Thetford.		
<b>plan/map attached:</b>	<b>Yes</b> Please see below		
<b>Any other funding:</b>	No (Thetford Town Council has confirmed its 50% share)		
<b>Parish Income:</b> [2019/20 accounts]	<b>Precept</b>	<b>Other Income</b>	<b>Total Yearly Income</b>
	767,015	412,690	1,179,705

<b>Reason for works:</b>	<p>Currently the path is muddy and uneven and does not allow easy access for wheelchair/pushchair users.</p> <p>There is also a step where the existing mud path meets the tarmac path approach to Blaydon Bridge.</p> <p>This is a heavily used route for residents of the Red Castle and Abbey estates as well as being a key link in the river corridor which runs through the town.</p> <p>This path is also used by the weekly ParkRun.</p> <p>Improving the connectivity of the route will encourage more people to walk and cycle as well as allowing less able users to enjoy the riverside walk.</p>
<b>Any relevant supporting documents (e.g. supportive correspondence) :</b>	<p>Local councillors have had numerous requests from residents and visitors to upgrade the path for users. The organisers of Thetford Parkrun have also lobbied the Town Council for this path to be upgraded as it is a key part of their route.</p> <p>This section of path has continually been highlighted as a missing link in the green infrastructure of the town and is shown on the Breckland Council Green Infrastructure report as an existing Pedestrian Green Link to enhance. (Extract attached as separate document).</p> <p>Thetford Green Infrastructure Report  <a href="https://www.breckland.gov.uk/media/3659/Thetford-Green-Infrastructure-Study-Report-Part-17/pdf/4098_Final_GI_Study_Report_Jan_08_Part17.pdf?m=636391651029270000">https://www.breckland.gov.uk/media/3659/Thetford-Green-Infrastructure-Study-Report-Part-17/pdf/4098_Final_GI_Study_Report_Jan_08_Part17.pdf?m=636391651029270000</a></p> <p>In 2018, the Greater Thetford Development Partnership produced a Cycling and Walking Report which included extensive consultation with the public and partners. The riverside path near to Blaydon Bridge featured in the list of four Priority Major Projects.</p> <p><a href="https://thetford.mathmos.net/gtdp/community-subgroup/2018-05-16/cw-report-draft-3-extra-small.pdf">https://thetford.mathmos.net/gtdp/community-subgroup/2018-05-16/cw-report-draft-3-extra-small.pdf</a></p> <p>In their report, they noted:</p> <p>The most commonly raised issue in the public comments was the condition of the path on the north bank of the River Little Ouse between the Priory Car Park and Blaydon Bridge. The route is currently unsurfaced, and 10 respondents asked for the surface to be improved [C4,C5,C6,C8,C10,C11,C13,C15,C27,C28]. The route used is on land owned by Breckland Council and mostly follows the line of the Public Right of Way 'Thetford FP 1'. It is a desire line for those living in the Redcastle area and wanting to get to the town via Minstergate. It is also part of the route of the weekly parkrun1 event held on Saturday mornings on the Abbey Meadows. The evidence on the ground is that the route is very well-used. In winter it becomes very muddy and slippery, and is blocked by large puddles after moderate rainfall (see figure 1). The desire of pedestrians to avoid the main line can clearly be seen by the widening of the route and the footprints left in the grass on either side. Diverting to the sides is not a solution as the width is restricted by bushes in places and the grass that is available is also typically waterlogged after rain. Several respondents mentioned the danger as well as the unpleasantness of using this route"</p>
<b>Discussed with:</b>	<p>Personal data</p>



Project is shown in red above