South Cumbria Rivers Trust (SCRT) works in collaboration with the Environment Agency (EA) and Natural England (NE) to identify, scope and deliver work that benefits the special nature of the River Kent. The River Kent and its tributaries are designated as a <u>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</u> and a <u>Special Area of Conservation (SAC)</u>.

BOWSTON WEIR REMOVAL PROPOSAL – UPDATE: OCTOBER 2020



ISSUE DATE: Wednesday 14th October 2020

BOWSTON- A BRIEF UPDATE

South Cumbria Rivers Trust (SCRT) began investigations into this weir removal proposal in 2017. In early 2018 the proposal was first brought to a meeting of Bowston residents from which later emerged the Local Community Engagement Plan (LCEP). Through the LCEP we have worked to inform, update and share the viewpoints of all interested parties including the weir owner, residents, local Parish Councils and interest groups.

In late February 2020, SCRT met again with local residents, Burneside Parish Council & South Lakeland District Council representatives to discuss the proposal in more detail and to hear each other's views. Unfortunately, various constraints created through the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent furlough of SCRT staff, has delayed the collation and publication of the summary of notes from this meeting. However, these notes and answers to questions raised in this meeting are now being complied and will be posted to the SCRT website over the coming days. Please visit our website; https://scrt.co.uk/what-we-do/current-projects/bowston/

We will now be returning to other elements of the LCEP that were also disrupted over recent months, including what will now be a virtual meeting/s for other interest groups. We will contact these representatives shortly.

We can confirm that the funding previously secured for the weir removal remains available and will be taken forward into 2021.

SCRT can also confirm that the agreement to the removal of Bowston weir has been received from the weir owner.

We will continue to update all interested parties with new developments and relevant information as soon as possible, via e-mail and on our website.

Regards,

The SCRT Team

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CONTACT US

Please contact us at <u>admin@scrt.co.uk</u> if you have any questions and we will do our best to answer them as soon as possible.

All information and updates to date can be found on our our website: https://scrt.co.uk/what-we-do/current-projects/bowston