

## **FLEET POND**

**Client:** Hart District Council

**Value:** £1.3m

**Duration:** 30 weeks

### **Project Detail**

Fleet Pond is the largest freshwater lake in Hampshire. The nature reserve has 141 acres of varied habitats including heathland, woodland, reedbed and marsh, and is home for many species of birds, butterflies, dragonflies and wildflowers. The Pond itself is 52 acres so covers some 35% of the total area of the reserve. Most of the reserve (48 acres) is designated as Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of the diversity of flora and fauna.

Suttle Projects along with Suttle Piling have been tasked with a three phase program to improve the accessibility. The three phase program is split into the following phases:

- Phase 1 – Footpath widening and a new boat slipway at Boat House Corner
  - Widening the footpaths considerably, making travel for pedestrians and cyclists significantly easier and safer. It is a high traffic area and is currently not sufficient to safely cope with the large amount of footfall.
- Phase 2 – Improvements to the access road and Fleet Pond car park (currently being undertaken)
- Phase 3 – New pedestrian crossing and footpath on the A3013 (currently being undertaken)

The footpath widening required sheet piling to allow the pathway to extend into the pond whilst keeping the embankment stable. Modern natural products were used to improve aesthetics and bio-diversity across the face of the more structural sheet piles. This included willow, and coir rolls, used to great effect. A temporary cofferdam was installed to allow for the new boat slipway to be completed.

### **Comments from the Client:**

“The standard of detail, workmanship, safety compliance and due care and diligence to the property shown by the contracting team is encouraging and welcomed.”

- Paul Belmont – Corporate Health & Safety Advisor, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

















The Site team with Directors; Joe Paine, Alistair Maidman, Sue Marshall and representatives from Hart district council on a tour of the works before being officially reopened to the public.



The Site team with Directors; Joe Paine & Alistair Maidman with Philip Sheppard (Hart district council) on a tour of the works before being officially reopened to the public.