

Erosion of the riverbank at Caley Green

During recent months the intensity of boating, swimming etc using the river at the Caley Green 'hotspot' appears to be increasing the erosion of the riverbank, particularly in the vicinity of the disintegrating existing wooden revetment.

The photos below show some of the places where lumps of riverbank have become/are becoming detached and falling into the river.

Photo 1 – Stretch of river bank at Caley Green (looking NorthEast) showing areas of eroded bank (and extent of existing but decaying wooden revetment)



Photo 2 - Stretch of river bank at Caley Green (looking South-West) showing areas of eroded bank (and extent of existing but decaying wooden revetment)



It's likely that some of the erosion is due to:

- Watercraft users nosing their craft into the bank to stop and get out of the water; some solid craft have quite sharp, hard, bows
- Watercraft users using their oars to push off from the riverbank
- Jumping into the water onto their watercraft, exerting extra force on the bank edge
- General river users, e.g. swimmers, paddlers, boaters climbing in and out of the water etc



Photo 2,3 – Close-up views of part of the river bank at Caley Green showing recently detached sections of the bank about to fall into the river



A very brief background to the creation of the 'bay' at Caley Green

A Google Earth image (below) shows an aerial view of Caley Green with reed beds along the riverbank section of Caley Green opposite Bear Street, and showing the extent of the wooden revetment.



In 2016 the reed beds were unofficially cut down and the roots dug out (see photos below taken at the time).



Photo 4 – Reed bed area of riverbank after removal of reeds and roots



Photo 5 – Remains of reed removal, cleared away by the Parish Council