

Appendix C – Example Imagery of Communications

1. Storyboard examples:

**Rickmansworth**
Aquadrome

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT EBURY PLAY AREA?

Delayed opening

Due to the unexpected discovery of Japanese knotweed in the newly refurbished play area, its opening has been postponed until later in the year.

Three Rivers District Council has to restrict public access to prevent accidental transfer of the Japanese knotweed, which is not allowed under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981. The council understands how disappointing the delayed opening of Ebury play area is for everyone and is working with the contractors to resolve this. Please bear with us whilst the works take place and be assured that it will be worth the wait!

The Balance

Balancing the needs of the Aquadrome Local Nature Reserve so that it can thrive, alongside its much-loved status in the community, is challenging. Three Rivers District Council continues to ensure that both people and nature can flourish here.

What is Japanese Knotweed?

The plant is classed as an invasive, non-native species; it is not toxic to humans or animals, but it spreads rapidly through tiny fragments known as rhizomes. It can cause significant damage to built infrastructure and natural ecosystems. Introduced to the UK from East Asia in the 1800s as an ornamental garden plant, it was sold widely as they were unaware at the time of how invasive the species was.



What is an Invasive, Non-Native Species (INNS)?

INNS have been introduced to the UK from another country and have a negative impact on the ecosystem. Not all non-native species are invasive, apple trees for example are non-native but as they don't have a negative impact on the ecosystem, they are not considered invasive.

INNS are controlled by the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, where it is against the law to allow any of the plants and animals within Schedule 9 to spread. Therefore, while it is not illegal to have these species within your land, it is illegal to allow them to spread.

Occasionally you may spot American Signal Crayfish around the water courses at the Aquadrome. They are termed as 'widely spread' and whilst they unbalance the food webs with their diet, and weaken riverbanks with their burrowing, government guidance is that no action is needed.


What are we doing about INNS?

It is not illegal to have these species within the Aquadrome, but the council must not allow them to spread.

That is why the Japanese knotweed within the play area must be carefully dealt with in line with the legal requirements. Due to the location and the high likelihood of spread within a play area, all traces of the plant will need to be removed in a controlled manner, ensuring decontamination protocols are followed throughout the process which will take some time.

Elsewhere within the Aquadrome, the council manages Japanese knotweed following national guidance, which can take up to five years for complete removal.

 Want to know more?
Scan the QR code for additional details

**Rickmansworth**
Aquadrome

WORKING WITH NATURE & WATER

This is an extraordinary area, and the Rickmansworth Aquadrome project will nurture and enhance the important habitats that make this nature reserve unique.

The River Colne flows through the Aquadrome and is one of only 240 chalk rivers globally, rare ecosystems that support diverse wildlife but require protection for the future.

Another rare habitat here is the wet woodland, with waterlogged soils and deadwood that create ideal conditions for specialist insects. Fallen trees are left to maintain this vital invertebrate habitat.

The Floodplain

The Aquadrome, located on a floodplain next to the River Colne, stores water, supports wildlife, captures carbon, and improves water quality. It protects the local town by managing frequent rainfall and flooding. However, this often affects the site's infrastructure, requiring path closures in the wet woodland for visitor safety.



Artist's impression of the pinetum boardwalk

Understanding The Water Flow

A hydrological study is being undertaken to inform the project team on how water moves around the Aquadrome. Working in partnership with the Environment Agency, this information will provide a valuable insight into the network of water courses across the site. The study will help us understand how to support the localised flow of water and increase the Aquadrome's resilience to a changing climate. It will enable informed action that is environmentally sensitive, value for money and long lasting.

What Happens Next?

Once completed, the hydrological study will help the council make decisions on:

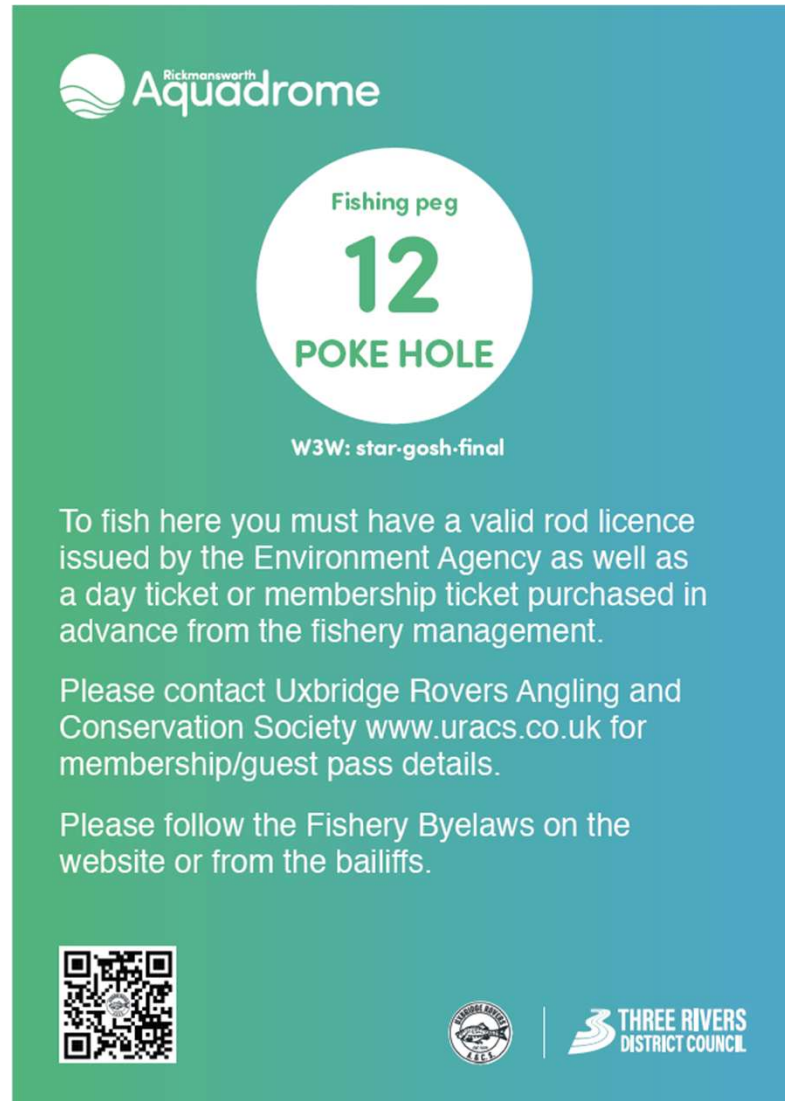
- Improving visitor access to the footpaths and popular woodland walk for the long term, including a new boardwalk through the pinetum and beyond.
- Caring for the wildlife of the River Colne, wet woodland and lakes for the future.
- Helping people find out about the Aquadrome's wildlife, history and vital function as a floodplain.

 Want to know more?
Scan the QR code for additional details

2. Welcome Sign



3. Fishing Swim Sign and Return to Nature Signage



The sign is a vertical rectangle with a green-to-blue gradient background. At the top left is the Rickmansworth Aquadrome logo. In the center is a white circle containing the text 'Fishing peg', the number '12' in large green font, and 'POKE HOLE' in green. Below the circle is the text 'W3W: star-gosh-final'. The middle section contains two paragraphs of white text regarding fishing licenses and contact information. At the bottom left is a QR code, and at the bottom right are the logos for the Uxbridge Rovers Angling and Conservation Society and Three Rivers District Council.

Rickmansworth Aquadrome




Fishing peg
12
POKE HOLE

W3W: star-gosh-final

To fish here you must have a valid rod licence issued by the Environment Agency as well as a day ticket or membership ticket purchased in advance from the fishery management.

Please contact Uxbridge Rovers Angling and Conservation Society www.uracs.co.uk for membership/guest pass details.

Please follow the Fishery Byelaws on the website or from the bailiffs.



The sign features a background image of tall green reeds in a body of water. The Rickmansworth Aquadrome logo is in the top left. The title 'MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE' is in large white letters. Below it is a paragraph of white text explaining the purpose of the fence line. Another paragraph follows, and the Three Rivers District Council logo is in the bottom right.

Rickmansworth Aquadrome

MAKING SPACE FOR NATURE

The fence line is protecting the vegetation as it establishes on the edge of the lakes. This is important as this can reduce erosion by stabilising the soil, using the roots to lock the bank together.

By giving these plants the best opportunity to establish, nature can protect the banks, preserving the lake for years to come.



4. Partnership Logo Banner



5. Examples of social media posts

View post

[threerivers.districtcouncil](#) 28 Jul 2025 | 08:45



Join our team and provide administrative support to the Water, Wildlife and Wellbeing Aquadrome Project. 🌿 This role is made possible by National Lottery players and is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Your role will include budget management, meeting coordination and drafting monitoring reports as directed by the Head of Leisure and Natural Infrastructure and the Programme Development Manager. Find out more 📄 https://orlo.uk/AquadromeProjectSupportOfficer_97jva #ThreeRivers #NewJob #Hiring #Vacancy #JobVacancy #NationalLottery #HeritageFund @HeritageFundUK



View post

[threerivers.districtcouncil](#) 23 May 2025 | 17:01



Diversion signs in and around the Rickmansworth Aquadrome are now being removed. The new pedestrian bridge is now open to walkers and cyclists. Meanwhile, the opening of Ebury Play Area will now take place later than hoped, and is scheduled for this coming autumn owing to the discovery of Japanese Knotweed. Thank you for your patience and understanding. For more information on the bridge 📄 <https://orlo.uk/GuqUs> #ThreeRivers



View post

[threerivers.districtcouncil](#) 29 Jul 2025 | 11:01



As part of the wider project to protect and enhance the site for the future, we want to build a picture of how the Rickmansworth Aquadrome is used and what it means to its visitors ❤️ What are your favourite places to visit? What is your favourite memory of the Aquadrome? Please share your ideas, thoughts and pictures 📄 <https://orlo.uk/jQQkL> #ThreeRivers #HaveYourSay #RickmansworthAquadrome

