

NEWS RELEASE – 3 November 2011

Calne's historic lock gets go-ahead

A grant of £19,040 will ensure that a project to undertake renovation of a former lock in the centre of Calne will go ahead.

Waste treatment and recycling company, Hills Waste Solutions, has made the grant to Castlefields Canal and River Park Association (CARP) through the Landfill Communities Fund which is administered by Community First.



L to r: Helen Cotter – Community First, Karen Boswell – CARP, Tim Preece – CARP, Calne Town Mayor Cllr Ansell, Chris Kemp – CARP, Mike Hill and Mike Webster of Hills pictured at the lock which is to be restored

CARP will use the funds on a project to 'restore' the lock to form a focal feature at the main entrance to Castlefields Park. Whilst it will not be a full working lock, a replica narrow boat will feature as a centrepiece of the project and give an insight into how this historic site worked and looked.

"This project will be visible from the main road and will hopefully encourage local and passing people to enjoy the green, open space of the park," said Mike Webster, group director Hills Waste Solutions. "As a major employer in the Calne area we are pleased to support this community project which brings to life a part of the area's history."

ENDS

Notes for editors

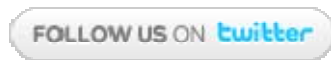


- The Calne town lock was a headwater of the Wilts and Berks Canal system and used to draw its water from the adjacent River Marden although this is no longer possible.
- The Castlefields area of Calne and the River Marden valley in general have long been used by the people of Calne for informal countryside recreation.
- Small local action groups have already achieved improvements involving footpaths, litter clearance and amenity planting schemes.
- The Wilts and Berks Canal Association has cleared silt from part of the derelict canal and a small wildlife conservation area has been established.
- Hills employ 74 people from the Calne area (total staff 400)
- Hills regularly use direct sponsorship and funding from the Landfill Communities Fund to support projects that improve the lives and environment for communities in the Calne area.

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