



FLETTON FIELD DEVELOPMENT REPORT, **version 2**

Introduction

This Development Report is based on the phased development described in the Fletton Field Association Business Plan dated March 2022 and supersedes the Phase 1 and Phase 2 implementation plans.

The OTC/FFA working party will review successive revisions and update this report, at working party meetings as a working document for implementation in accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding between OTC and FFA. **Revisions made to the previous version will be highlighted.**

In January 2024 OTC applied for S106 funding from the Herne Lodge and land at Ashton Road development (12/01614/FUL) for the purchase of Fletton Field and provision of facilities. This and other potential sources of funding will need to be realised.

Activities that have been completed

- OTC has provided a shed for FFA to store its materials and equipment.
- Three bench seats and one picnic table have been purchased by OTC
- Undergrowth around the edges of the field, which provides habitat for wildlife, retained except where shrub or tree planting has taken place.
- Existing wildflower areas retained and will be enhanced by appropriate seeding and/or bulb planting.
- Local school children have submitted drawings for an entrance feature to be constructed at the principal entrance from Glapthorn Road.
- Appropriate signage has been designed and installed at both entrances to the field.
- A removeable barrier has been provided at the north entrance to the field to restrict access to authorised vehicles.

Ongoing activities

- **The three bench seats will be installed in February 2026. A suitable location for the picnic table is to be decided. OTC has been asked to purchase two more bench seats.**
- Design and construction of the **entrance feature** at the principal entrance from Glapthorn Rd.
- Invitations to local schools to undertake projects to support wildlife and increase biodiversity (bug hotels, hedgehog homes and bird boxes would be welcome).
- An area will be mown to suit tai chi and/or yoga groups.
- A suitable area could be provided for scouts, guides, cubs and brownies if required.
- A **sensory garden**, including surface features to touch and feel texture, scented plants and a variety of wind chimes to stimulate the senses, initially by planting herbs, such as rosemary, camomile and thyme, and a variety of indigenous bulbs along some pathways, with support from Blooming Oundle.
- FFA will continue to find out more about an exercise circuit with instructions and appropriate equipment to encourage health and well-being.
- A **gate from Abbott House** to enable direct access to the field for the residents if required; this is the responsibility of Abbot House management.
- The provision of **sculptures** such as those at Barnwell Country Park will be considered.
- An **information board** **has been procured and installed** near the entrance from Glapthorn Road. A second board will be considered for the entrance from Fletton Way.
- **While FFA had concluded that maintenance of a willow sculpture would be too onerous, a simple willow structure will be developed.**

The timescale for ongoing activities will be agreed by the OTC/FFA working party.



- **Original ideas that might not proceed**
- NNC has indicated that it will not empty the dog poo bin; FFA volunteers will continue to provide this service for the time being.
- **Litter bins** will not be installed; visitors will be asked to take their litter home.
- The proposal to install two **cycle racks**, to be funded by a donor, is subject to demand since the existing cycle rack at the front of Fletton House is rarely used.
- Blooming Oundle does not have enough volunteers to provide **planters**, similar to the planters around the town, at each entrance point.
- A series of **raised beds** that can be managed from a sitting position to enable the elderly or disabled to take part in gardening activities will not be pursued for the time being.
- The provision of an **all-weather path** around the field is unnecessary because it has been demonstrated that access around the field by people in wheelchairs and mobility scooters is not difficult.
- FFA has considered the idea of a designated **performance area** (brought forward from Phase 3) concluding that anywhere on the Field may be used without designating a specific area, and spaces can be adapted for the style and type of performance planned.