

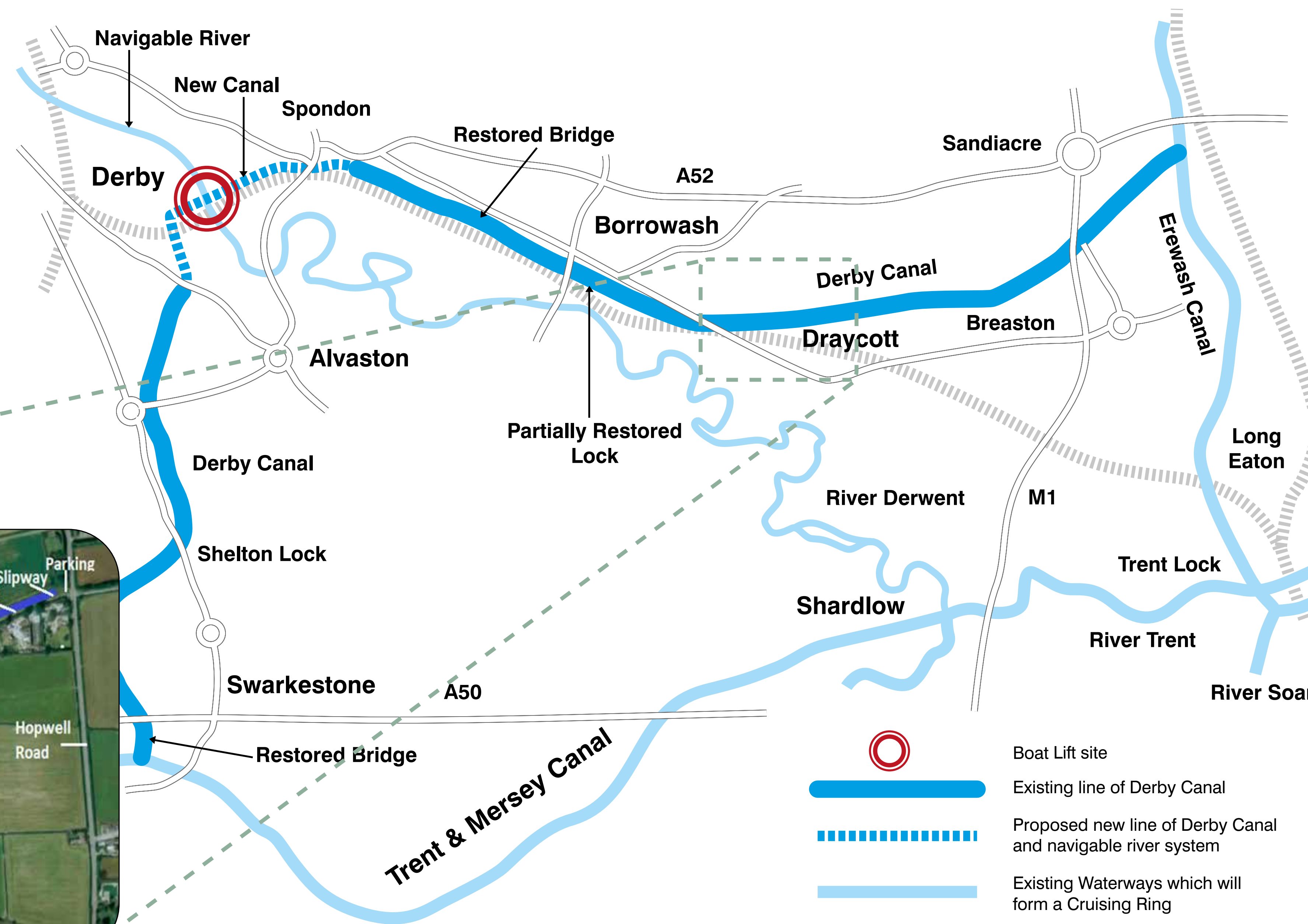
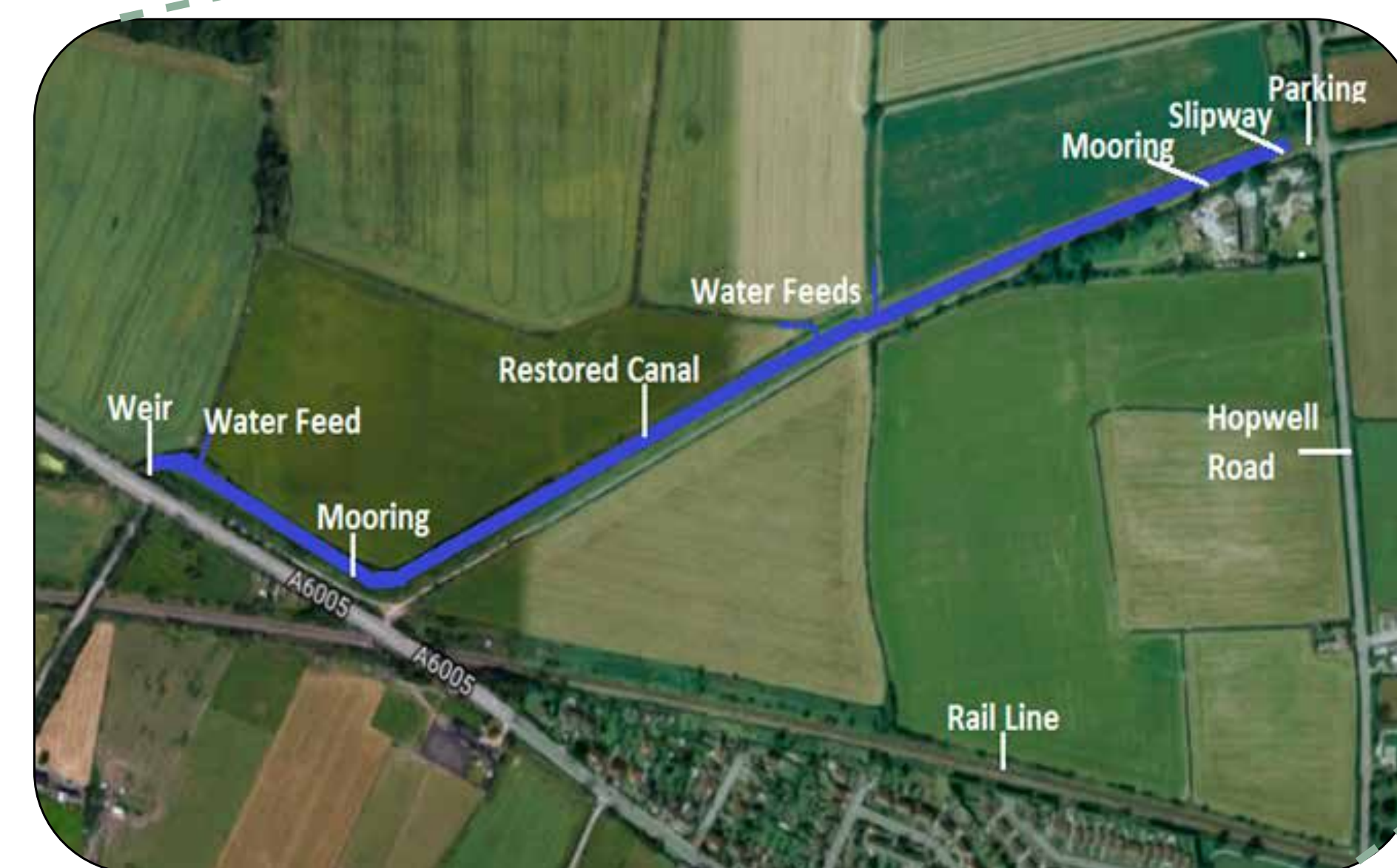
Restoring the Derby Canal at Draycott



Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust is a charity formed by local people to restore the original Derby Canal and enhance our community. Many volunteer hours have already been spent to manage the section and create the hedgerows to encourage birdlife. We are now able to complete the restoration of the canal between Hopwell Road and Derby Road and enhance outdoor pursuits for local people and create better habitat for our wildlife.

Funding has been achieved by public donations raised in an appeal launched in 2017. Gap funding has been provided by Network Rail in recognition that the construction of the canal will create an effective level channel to direct floodwater away from the railway line alongside and improve the reliability of the public transport network.

Previous improvement work on hedges and the ditch have attracted more wildlife including a water vole colony. We have therefore have organised our work to minimise the impact on their overall habitat. Firstly we employed experts to locate their burrows and the survey has revealed that we have a few groups of water voles on the central section of the canal. We have therefore had to planned to split the canal dig out into phases.



Once complete the canal will be available for angling, canoeing and other outside activities. This will be supported by a café and other facilities at the Canal Cottages, which should also be completed in 2021.



Canal Cottages Hub

We apologise for the inconvenience these works will cause to path users. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you enjoy the restored canal.



Existing 'ditch'



Artist impression of restored canal

The work will be undertaken as follows:

- In November and December a new earth bank will be built along the canal line where it is currently too low. This will be placed on the sides of the current ditch so that vole habitats are not affected. This work is urgent to prevent water flooding the railway line during the winter.
- In December and January, our contractor will be restoring the short section that runs beside Derby Road. This is where we found no water voles. The section will be re-profiled and a bentonite clay liner installed to retain the water. A dam will be

built at each end to raise the water level. Coir rolls will be installed to provide food for the voles and fences erected around the new canal section to retain and protect them in their temporary reserve.

- In March and April experts will move the voles from the untouched sections into the new reserve – safe from future construction works.
- In May and June 2021 our contractors will return to complete the work. They will complete the re-profiling of the rest of the canal from Derby Road to Hopwell Road. This will also include lifting the current path to its correct level.

- Upon completion of the works, the fencing around the Derby Road section will be removed and the water voles will be able to return to the rest of the restored canal. The offbank will also be planted with a mix of native wild flowers and plants to support a more diverse insect and wildlife population.

During the time the contractors are on site we will need to close the footpath to the public for safety reasons. This is expected to be from 15th November to the 24th December 2020 from 4th to 16th January and also from early May to July 2021.

For more information, the full restoration plan and how you can support our work, please visit our web site at www.derbycanal.org.uk.



Scan this QR code to go to our website



CANAL 5 to 70085
This text will cost you £5, plus a standard network rate message. Remember any amount can be donated between £1 and £20 in whole pounds.

