

## Queen's Wood Flood Management Scheme

Discussions with the Council on the proposed scheme have continued to dominate our agenda. The appointment of the new team in the Council to manage the project has certainly led to considerable improvements in the way it is being handled.

Work has focussed on scrutinising and refining the new detailed designs issued by the Council in February, reflecting the ideas we had put forward in the autumn. Particular areas of concern covered have been:

- reconfiguring and resiting the berms to reduce their ecological and visual impact;
- designing improvements to the works to be carried out in the area of the Wood Vale entrance, which it is accepted should now form part of the scheme;
- further clarifying the work to be carried out in a number of other areas, especially around the frog pool; downstream of the dog pool; and between Buildbase and the Capital Ring Path.

Following pressures from ourselves the Council has also now accepted that it is not possible to carry out all the work necessary to permit implementation of the scheme to start at the beginning of June, and the start date has been put off to September. This is a very welcome development. The Council has also accepted that provision should be built into the timetable for members to give their views on the amended scheme before final decisions are taken. Prior to that stage there remains a considerable amount of work to be done to achieve a satisfactory outcome and it remains to be seen whether it is possible to do all that is necessary even within this timescale.

