

Saffron Heath Pond Dipping Platform

SLNC- Saffron Heath Project

April 2016



Saffron Heath was previously an allotment site but had been disused for nearly 15 years due to a lack of demand. This abandonment had resulted in excessive vegetation growth. Saffron Lane Neighbourhood Council (SLNC) and its staff undertook the clearance of the Saffron Heath site, in which a now known to be Victorian field pond was discovered.

This field pond had its surface densely covered and through clearance was found to have very steep banks and little native plant life, despite still holding an established Smooth Newt population (*Triturus vulgaris*).

As part of the delivery of the Saffron Heath Project, staff will be running open days throughout the year to educate the local community on the importance of conserving green spaces and the habitats within them.



With the help of the Naturesave Trust and volunteers the project has been able to, after stabilising the banks, plant and introduce native and beneficial pond life, including; Frogbit, Spiked Watermilfoil, Hornwort, Marsh Marigold, Gypsywort, Purple Loosestrife and Meadowsweet, as well as constructing a pond dipping platform and hibernacula which has proved very successful.

If you would like to volunteer or are interested in the open day opportunities available, please contact us at: saffronheath@gmail.com