



CLEARCHANNEL FUNDING
PROPOSAL

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Name: Paul Powlesland
Position: Trustee (Chair)
Address: 75 Dames Road, London, E7 0DW

Name: Alison Cormack
Position: Trustee
Address: 1 Cranborne Road,
Barking, IG11 7XD

Applicants' email addresses:
river.roding@gmail.com (group email)
paulpowlesland@hotmail.com
alisoncormack@hotmail.com

Applicant's telephone numbers:
07742177117 (Paul Powlesland)
07974090230 (Alison Cormack)

Name of organisation:
River Roding Trust

Charity number:
1184680

Website:
Coming soon

Social media:
www.facebook.com/groups/riverroding/



About the River Roding Trust charity:

The Friends of the River Roding was formed in the summer of 2017 as a community-led effort to restore the River Roding, with particular focus on the lower reaches around Barking and Ilford. In the summer of 2019, we became a registered charity in the form of the River Roding Trust. The objects of the River Roding Trust are as follows: “To preserve, protect and restore the River Roding for the public benefit and to undertake and carry on projects and activities of a charitable nature related to the river which will assist in promoting recreation, protecting the environment and educating the public about the history of the river.”

Over the past few years, we have already achieved a lot, working on a budget of around £5,000 per year, all of which is voluntarily contributed by the boaters who live on the river and form the backbone of the project. The things we have achieved include planting 100's of trees along the river, removing significant amounts of rubbish from the river, putting in benches and flower beds for local people along the river and re-opening overgrown riverside pathways. Following our charity registration, we have plans to significantly increase the amount of work we do in relation to restoring the river.

The overall project aim, the background and how it will improve our local community.

Our project aims to enable the community to take control of their river and help rid it of pollution along a stretch in Barking for the first phase. We will do this by holding community days open to all ages and abilities where we tackle a variety of challenges from; litter removal, tree planting, wild flower sowing, overgrowth removal, water habitat improvement for land and water based wildlife. We hope to use a section of the fund to have a space where volunteers can eat, rest and clean up after a day's river and path clearing aboard a 13m narrowboat with cob pizza oven that we already own. Some of the litter will then be recycled using **Precious Plastics** recycling initiative into noticeboards, benches, walkways, and more!

In undertaking this task we also will open up a section of river-side path that has been neglected to the extent that it has become impassable. This primary focus will see a section opened up and with lessons learnt from this we hope to expand upon this learning and continue the path further north joining Barking to Ilford reopening an ancient bridle-way and public right of way to create a picturesque walk along a section of the River Roding. With this work complete it will then be possible for local residents and visitors to the area to explore the entire length of the river, whether on foot or on wheels.



One of our organised litter picking hauls we completed in 2019 that saw volunteers come from all over London and beyond.

Overview

The work of the River Roding Trust and the broad basis of the proposal for which we are seeking funding were set out by Paul Powlesland and Alison Cormack at the presentation a few weeks ago. In this document, we aim to set out in more detail what we would propose to spend the money on and the specific costings of these.

The map on the right details the areas in which we would propose to work. The exact placement of the improvements will depend on the specifics of each location (e.g. some places might suit a bench and trees, other places a sign board and a litter bin). As stated in our presentation, as we have been working on the river and its surrounds for a number of years, we have a good idea where improvements would be most needed and have the best effect. We will also consult with local people on the location of improvements to make sure that they are in the best place.

We can confirm that all of the places in which we wish to make improvements are publicly accessible. They are either on the riverside path (which is a public footpath open to all), in public areas (e.g. the area around Town Quay), or (in the case of the poplar trees), in the river, but visible from public areas.



Yellow lines indicate areas the RRT plans to improve

Site 01: Examples of Areas with Proposed Improvements:

This area of the Harts Lane estate overlooks the river in an especially scenic area with lots of reeds and wildlife. However, at the moment it is difficult for local people to enjoy the view. We would propose installing benches and fruit trees for shading, along with trimming back some of the foliage to give enhanced views of the river.



Harts Lane estate

Site 02: Examples of Areas with Proposed Improvements:

This section of the riverside path is one of the most used parts in the town, but doesn't feel like a place to stop and enjoy at the moment. We would like to introduce benches and trees for shading and to reduce the visual impact of the warehouses behind. A lot of rubbish gets thrown in along this section, so we would propose adding bins next to the benches.



Riverside path

Site 03: Examples of Areas with Proposed Improvements:

Another spot on the riverside path where a bench and a tree would create a place for local people to pause and enjoy the river.



Bench location

Site 04: Examples of Areas with Proposed Improvements:

This piece of land right near the centre of the town is currently unused and overgrown with buddleia. We would like to cut back the buddleia and install a bench, a tree and a bin and thereby create a small pocket park. This location is also the start of the historic Barking and Ilford Navigation, with the remains of the old navigation gates still visible. It would therefore be a good place for a sign board setting out the history of the navigation.



Sign location



CLEARCHANNEL FUNDING
PROPOSAL COSTINGS

Benches

From our time on the river and its surrounds, we already have a good idea of where benches could go, where they would likely be heavily used. However, to make sure this is where they would be most wanted by local people, we would also post the shortlisted location for benches on our Facebook group to get feedback from local people who would use them.

5 benches @ £600 + £50 installation costs= £3,000

<https://www.bin-shop.co.uk/seating/timber-seating/meridian-timber-seat>

3 benches @ £300= £900

<https://www.bin-shop.co.uk/seating/timber-seating/greenwich-timber-seat>

Total: £3,900



Meridian timber seat



Greenwich timber seat

Bins

Litter is a significant problem along the Roding, both in the river and along the banks. At one heavily used section of the pathway, we removed all litter from the reeds beside the river bed, only to go back the next year and find a further 100 bin bags of rubbish in the same place. At this location, like most locations along the river, there are no bins. Similarly, there is a significant issue with litter on the paths and open spaces. It's clear from the feedback of local people on social media and in local surveys that the rubbish and litter in many parts of the Borough is one of the biggest local issues and we would like to do what we can to improve the situation along the river and its environs.

Whilst installing bins won't completely solve the problem, we believe it will go a long way to making it better. We will use River Roding Trust volunteers and funding to ensure that the bins are emptied regularly.

Smaller dual Bins 10 @ £300 x 10: £3,000

<https://www.litterbins.co.uk/2-x-39-litre-compartment-wood-effect-outdoor-litter-bin.html>

Larger dual bins 2 @ £600 x 5= £1,200

<https://www.litterbins.co.uk/outdoor-dual-recycling-bin-160-litre.html>

Total: £4,200



2x39lt bin



160lt bin & recycling

Signs

Looking at the river today, it's often hard to imagine its history, or the nature that lives on it today. Many people don't know that Barking had the UK's largest fishing fleet, that much of the riverside had large factories along it, or that a colony of sand martins lives in the heart of the town. We believe that boards setting out history and information about the river today could really inspire people about the Roding and the unique place it has in the the area.

We will provide a shortlist of potential sign board locations and content on our Facebook group and allow people to vote on where they would be most appreciated and to comment on the content. Potential locations include:

- Town Quay: giving information about the historic quay and the boats and fishing fleet that used to use it.
- Entrance to the Barking and Ilford Navigation: setting out the history of the navigation and where it runs to.
- The Barking Road Bridge: giving information about the sand martin colony and other River Roding wildlife.
- Near Cowbridge Lane/Harts Lane: setting out the history of the old factories and wharves in the area, particularly the asbestos factory.
- Hand Trough Creek: giving the history of the Back River, the industries that used to be along this section of the creek and how it came to be filled in.
- The Barking barrage: setting out how and when the barrage was built and the function it serves.
- The mouth of the River Roding/Barking creek: two possible boards: one describing the whole river (e.g. where it rises, the areas it flows through and its broad history) and the other describing the history of the Creekmouth area (e.g. the Beckton sewage works, the flood barrier, Creekmouth village, the Princess Alice disaster etc).

We will consult with local historians over the content of the boards and the historic pictures we use to illustrate them.

Sign boards: £700 each x 4= £2,800

<https://www.greenbarnes.co.uk/shop/signage/lecterns/a2-man-made-timber-interpretation-panel-ref-pipa2/>



Directional Signs

During lockdown, we noticed a significant increase in the number of people using the riverside paths, as well as the number of enquiries on our group, as people could not find or follow the path at various points. There are a couple of places where the way along the river swaps banks and does not follow the river for a while. Signs in these places would really help local people to know where to go to get to and walk along the river and therefore increase the number of people who use the riverside paths and experience the river.

In particular, it would be useful to sign the router from the Abbey, to the barrage and around Hand Trough Creek (where the path then leads straight to the confluence with the Thames) as this is where many people seem to get lost.

Directional finger post signs: £325 each x 8= £2,600

<https://www.sign-maker.co.uk/100mm-high-fingers---3x-3-post---natural-wood-finger-post-signage---36328-p.asp>

Community Engagement

Although the boaters who form the core of the River Roding Trust live on the river and know it and its environs very well, it's important that other residents who live in the Borough are engaged with and feel connected to any improvements. We set out in our presentation, and in this document, how we intend to do that. Although much of this engagement can be done for free, it will be more effective if we can spend on certain things to make it even better.

- Buying food and drinks for volunteer days (e.g. to plant trees and install benches).
- Paying for local ecologists and foragers (e.g. from **Company Drinks**)
- Buying small plaques for tree species names and local people who have adopted them.

£500 total



Non-Fruit Trees:

The Trust has already planted hundreds of saplings along the river. However, these are small and will take some time to reach a noticeable height. For the more prominent places along the river and riverside path, we'd like to plant larger trees, both non-fruiting and fruiting.

For the planting of the poplar trees, we will combine any volunteer tree planting days with rubbish removal along the intertidal zone of the riverbanks (where the poplars will be planted). This should provide a transformative effect to these parts of the river in a short space of time.

Birch (£50) x 6= £300

<https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/silver-birch-betula-pendula-standard>

Poplar (£70) x 10= £700

<https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/black-poplar-populus-nigra-betulifolia>

Total: £1000

Tree planting and protection::

As these are mature trees, there are some additional costs in relation to the planting and protection of the trees.

Soil

@£114 per bag x 3= £342

<https://www.springbridge.co.uk/topsoil-/bulk-bags28/fine-loam-topsoil-bulk-bag>

Stakes and protection.

£10 each x 60= £600

<https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/packtreeplant>

Total: £942



Silver Birch



Poplar



Topsoil



Stakes and protection

Fruit Trees:

As stated in our presentation, as well as planting larger trees for immediate impact in key areas along the river, we would also like to plant lots of fruit trees. Although these are more expensive (and usually out of our budget), they not only look beautiful, but can provide fruit to local people, as well as providing the basis for foraged food and drink that comes from the River Roding.

For all tree planting, we aim to have the assistance of local people so they feel ownership over the trees. To encourage local people to join us, we will combine planting days with foraging and local ecology walks and talks, as well as providing food and drink.

Further, to give local people a feeling of ownership over the trees, we will have an ‘adopt a tree’ scheme so people can adopt specific trees. This will also help with looking after the trees (e.g. watering and mulching them) into the future and help foster connections between nature and people who live near the river.

50 trees x £175 (on average, taking into account bulk discount) = £8,750

Apples:

<https://www.barcham.co.uk/products/malus-discovery>

<https://www.barcham.co.uk/products/malus-james-grieve>

Pears:

<https://www.barcham.co.uk/products/pyrus-beurre-hardy>

<https://www.barcham.co.uk/products/pyrus-communis-beech-hill>

Cherry:

<https://www.barcham.co.uk/products/prunus-domestica-early-rivers>

Plum:

<https://www.barcham.co.uk/products/prunus-victoria>



Apple



Pear



Cherry



Plum

Total breakdown of funding sought:

As explained in our presentation, the amounts shown below are to enable us to achieve maximum impact along the River Roding in Barking. If only lesser amount are available then we would be able to make good use of these amounts for all of the things that we have set out in this proposal, but on a smaller scale.

Benches: £3,900

Bins: £4,200

Sign Boards: £2,800

Directional signs: £2,600

Non-fruit trees: £1,000

Fruit trees: £8,750

Planting costs: £942

Community Engagement: £500

Total: £24,692



Our local pair of swans with 2019's signets on the River Roding



GET IN TOUCH OR SAY AHOY!

RIVER.RODDING@GMAIL.COM