

THE VITACRESS
CONSERVATION
TRUST



The Bourne Rivulet Project

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Our beginning

- The chalk stream headwaters forum in June 2008 – a wide range of interest groups brought together. Only way forward was to work together
- Decided to develop a specialist management group that was representative of all those involved in use, management, preservation of Bourne Rivulet
- Kicked off in November 2008.

Aims

- Provide a focus for meeting of all agencies, stakeholders and representative groups interested in the Bourne Rivulet
- Develop an action plan for the multi-purpose long-term management of the Bourne Rivulet
- Undertake applied research and take expert advice as necessary
- Develop approach on the Bourne Rivulet as an exemplar for other headwaters such as on The Itchen



Current Objectives

- To identify 'good environmental status' of The Bourne - *what should the rivulet look like?*
- To identify current factors influencing this status
 - Discharges
 - Abstraction
 - Sewage – mains and septic tank
 - Surface water
- To identify appropriate management plans to ensure status is maintained

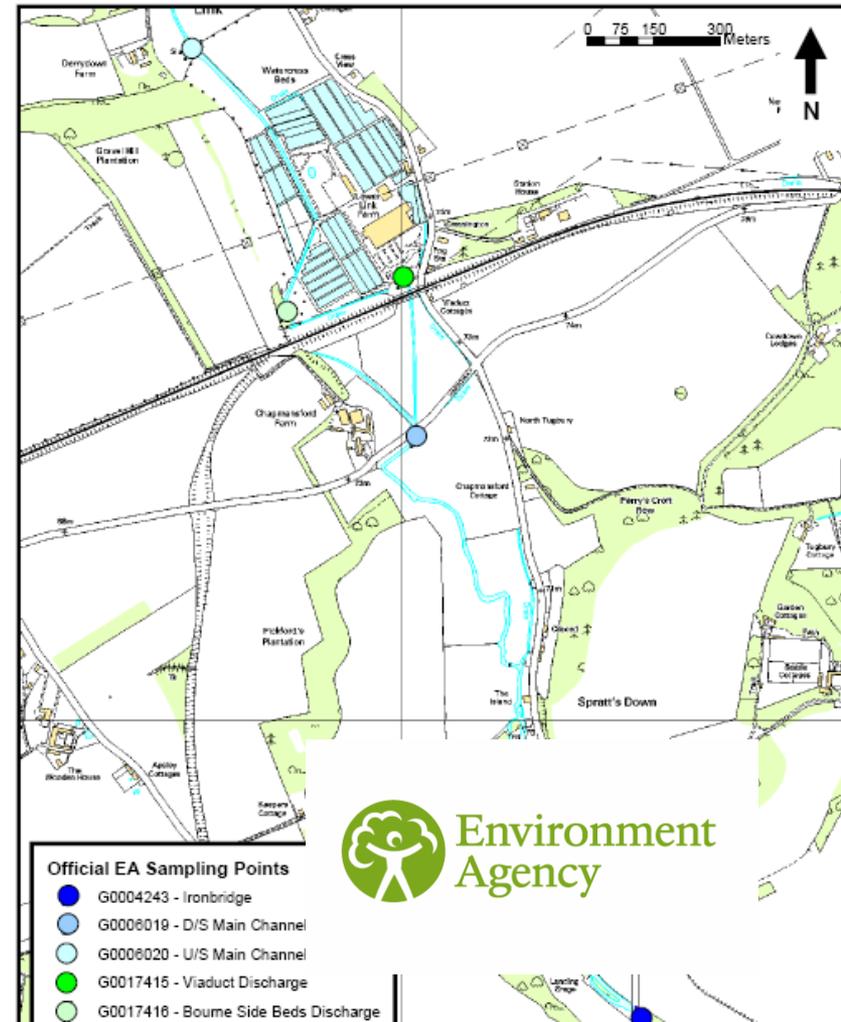
Working

- Meetings face to face for preliminary discussion and dissemination – *identify issues*
- On-site visits to stream – *examine real situation*
- Follow up in smaller expert groups as necessary with report back to all – *resolve uncertainty*
- Developed a web-based system – *provide access to information*
- Invite additional expert knowledge – *examine evidence*
- Develop appropriate solutions

What should The Bourne look like?



Extensive chemical, physical and biological analysis in recent years across eastern and western channels



- On-going work to develop 'ideal status'
- On-going work to improve road drainage
- Ongoing discussion on hydrogeology, phosphate, other potential pollutants
- PhD research in *Gammarus* and watercress mustard oils



Summary

- Major achievement in initiating dialogue between all interested parties
- Enabling broad picture to be considered with long-term benefits
- Developing action plan for The Bourne following definition of 'ideal status'