

Proposed restoration of drainage system on TW Common

The main drainage ditches on Tunbridge Wells Common were last fully restored in the mid 1990s. Over the intervening period, despite annual clearance of fallen leaves and debris, the ditches have slowly silted up and become less efficient. The combination of our poor sandy soils and the increased frequency of heavy downpours in recent years has only exacerbated the situation.

The proposal is therefore to excavate and re-profile the main drainage systems alongside the old Racecourse and the Terrace Walk above Brighton Lake. Levels will be re-checked to ensure flow and all culverts to be cleared and replaced as required. As part of the works, all the old wooden sleeper bridges that allow pedestrian access over the ditches will be removed and replaced with a solid walled pipe with a soil path above.

This work will significantly improve drainage conditions underfoot and reduce erosion of the path network, enabling better access by users for their enjoyment and recreation.