



## **Saintbridge Pond & Nature Reserve**

(Located between Abbeydale, Coney Hill and Saintbridge Wards, parallel with Painswick Road - GL44PS)

### **Residents Petition to Gloucester City Council**

Gloucester City Council are the riparian owners of Saintbridge Pond & Nature Reserve (2004 awarded protected Nature Reserve Status, and the largest volume of water in Gloucester City's urban areas) and as such are responsible for its maintenance and upkeep of ecosystems there which plants and wildlife depend on.

Residents and Friends of Saintbridge Pond & Nature Reserve (FOSP) have compiled this petition to ask Gloucester City Council to fulfil their ownership duties by providing a maintenance / business plan for the perimeter vegetation and foliage, and to reduce the amount of silt. This will address the loss of wildlife habitats and eradicate the invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam and the Giant Reed which crowds out native species and reduce wildlife habitat.

The level of silt affects water quality, it reduces the oxygen increases the loss of tiny invertebrates and creates a foul smell in Summer while the high-water levels in winter are a threat to local buildings and life which upset the biodiversity of the area. Pedestrian paths are impassable as the silt from the channels flowing into the Saintbridge Pond overflow. (2023 the path at the dry balancing pond has denied access for residents for the past three weeks).

Saintbridge pond was last desilted back in 2009 (14 years ago). Gloucester City Council have a duty to their residents, to keep them safe, to return Saintbridge Pond back to its original state where families, residents (estimated 1000 footfall per day!) can enjoy their daily walk for their health & well-being. Saintbridge pond is a lifeline for many people. Silt needs to be removed from Saintbridge pond, Gloucester City Council need to provide a safe and welcoming environment as it once used to be. (Green Flag Status)

**Total Signatures (enclosed) :- 1251**

**Petition Dated : 09/11/2023**