

LEDBURY GREEN SPACE LIAISON GROUP

Ledbury

Living Spaces Grant: £10,341

What's now called Riverside Park in Ledbury used to be three distinct sections of land, lying alongside the Ledbury bypass and the River Leadon. The first section had a car park and a riverside walk; this was cut off by a busy road from a more wild section of land managed as a meadow. The nearby third area was a more formally managed park area with surfaced paths and benches. There was no appropriate parking to allow access to the last two sections and the road crossing was an issue.

The Ledbury Green Space Liaison Group - local people who meet regularly to discuss issues relating to Ledbury's parks and open spaces - approached Living Spaces for a grant to make improvements to the park, realising that it would at the same time raise awareness of the town's recreational green spaces. The project aimed to encourage more local use of the site by connecting the three pieces of land as one larger park with appropriate signage to lead people around the different sections. A new map was designed to show how the three areas of the riverside park linked together. This approach would give visitors confidence to explore the whole site, as well as providing safe access to the park.

A new map was designed to show the link of the three areas of the 'Riverside Park'. Interpretation boards, which include the new map, were installed to give details of interesting aspects of the park and a feature was made of a nearby weir. Tree work has also been undertaken to open up the riverside by the weir and new recycled plastic tables were installed to encourage people to relax and enjoy the view. What's more, negotiations with a new DIY store led to the allocation of some extra parking spaces and Herefordshire Council were able to install safe crossing points on the busy by-pass.

The Living Spaces grant also funded new oak finger posts, waymarkers and interpretation boards which now highlight the existence of the Ledbury Town Trail which connects the town centre in Ledbury to the Riverside Park and surrounding countryside.

