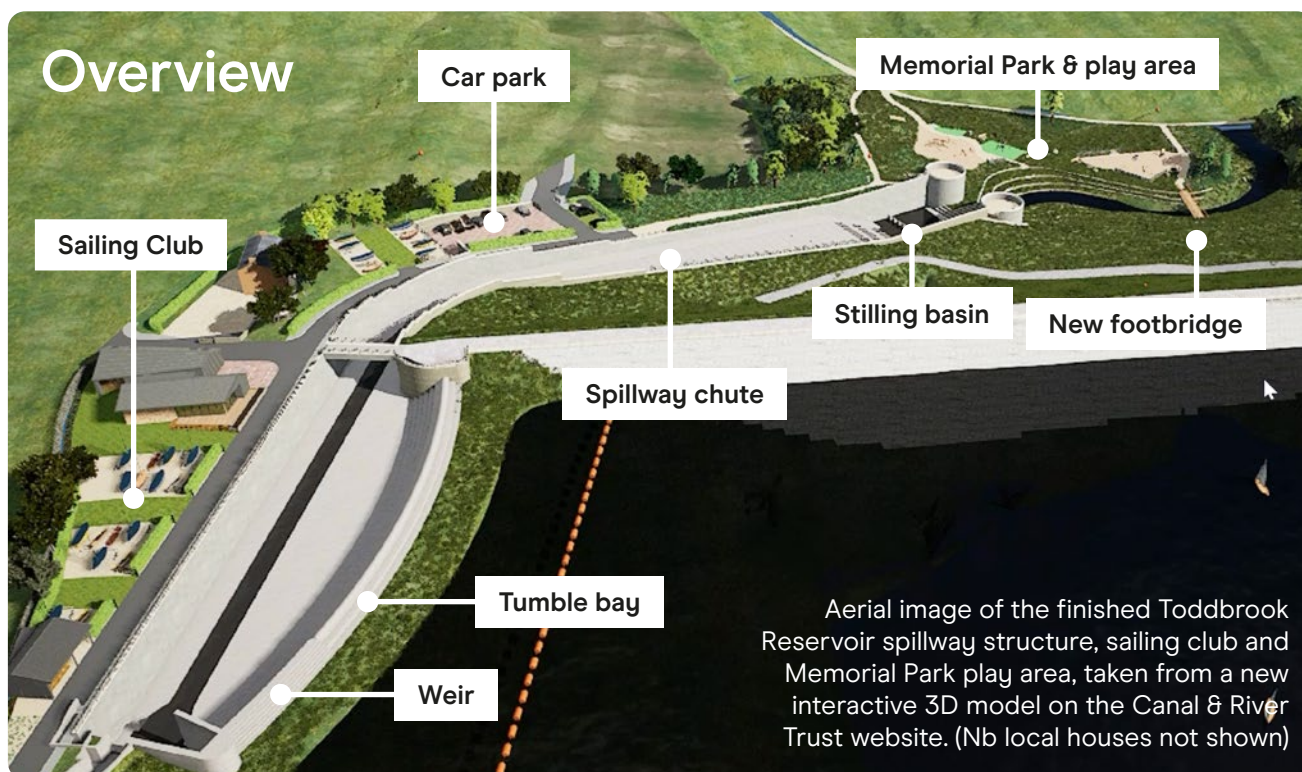




# Restoring Toddbrook Reservoir

## Construction Update – A Big Thank You



The construction project to create a new overflow spillway at Toddbrook Reservoir, next to the Whaley Bridge Memorial Park, is progressing on target.

We would like to thank everyone who lives nearby, particularly close neighbours, for their patience and understanding during this main construction phase. The Trust's principal contractor, Kier, are working hard to minimise any disruption caused by this work.

Kier's Stakeholder Manager Tess Smith is liaising closely with local households and an independent building surveyor

has been contracted to assist where necessary. Air quality, noise and vibration levels are constantly measured to ensure they remain within acceptable limits. Over the next few weeks, the first phase to install up to 1,000 sheet piles marking out the route of the new spillway will have been successfully completed, so general noise levels should reduce from July onwards.

**If you would like to see what has been happening behind the hoardings, there will be a chance to join staff from the Canal & River Trust and Kier on site at two summer public open days on Friday 7 and Saturday 8 July.**

**Places will need to be booked in advance via the Trust's website.**

And for those wishing to see what the new £15 million structure will look like when it is finished, we have commissioned an interactive, fly-through, 3D model.

For regular construction updates, a link to the new interactive 3D model and to book places on the public open days, please go to the Canal & River Trust website: [canalrivertrust.org.uk/restoring-toddbrook-reservoir](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/restoring-toddbrook-reservoir)

**Thank you for your support.**

# Progress update

The restoration of Toddbrook Reservoir involves removing the auxiliary spillway that was damaged in summer 2019 and replacing it with a new overflow spillway structure to the north of the dam. This will include a side channel weir, tumble bay, spillway channel and stilling basin, which will link into the existing bypass channel flowing into the River Goyt in the town's Memorial Park.

The main construction phase started last autumn and despite difficulties caused by a wet January, the target is still to reopen the reservoir by late 2024. The northern end of the town's Memorial Park has been temporarily closed to the public to make way for the site compound and spillway works. Hoardings have been erected, site accesses installed, and existing drainage and feeder channels have been realigned. The public is still able to walk through the park on a footpath connecting Reservoir Road to the Memorial Park Bridge, and new children's play equipment has been installed at a temporary site at the top of the dam, next to Whaley Bridge Athletic Football Club.



Above: Sheet piling to create the new spillway chute and stilling basin.



Above: Sheet piling ensures the integrity of the dam during the construction works to create a new spillway channel.



Above top & bottom: Installing sheet piling to create the new side channel weir and tumble bay.

To make way for the new spillway, the sailing club will be relocated behind the new tumble bay, where it will feature a new slipway, clubhouse, boat storage and car park.

Nearly 1,000 metal sheet piles, measuring from 4–12 metres high, have been installed to mark the route of the new side channel weir, tumble bay and spillway, starting at the top of the reservoir by the dam wall and leading down the slope towards the River Goyt.

Where we have excavated at the dam crest, temporary sheet piles will be kept in place throughout construction to maintain essential flood protection measures.



# What happens next?

The next major phase in the construction project is to install 500 concrete piles at two locations – the top of the dam crest and tumble bay, and further down at the stilling basin. This is a less intrusive process than the sheet piling and involves pouring concrete into cylindrical columns, which are then reinforced with steel to form the structure's foundations.

Once the sheet piles are in place, the ground can be excavated to form the new channel, which will be lined in concrete, forming a base and side walls for the new spillway structures. These will be constructed over the coming months, starting with the weir and tumble bay at the top by the reservoir, followed by the spillway chute, stilling basin and two cylindrical concrete turrets, which are an essential engineering feature. These are necessary to slow down the water flow before it enters the open channel and River Goyt. A couple of further short periods of sheet piling are also expected to take place from early August.

Towards the end of the project, concrete panels from the 1970s spillway, damaged in summer 2019, will be removed. The dam will then be repaired and grassed over.

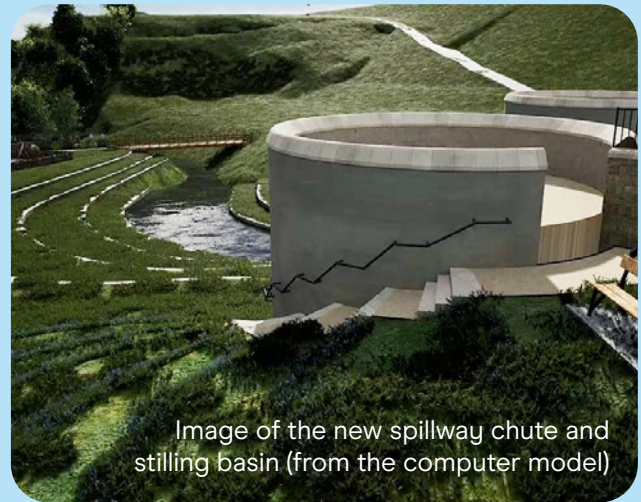


Image of the new spillway chute and stilling basin (from the computer model)

High volume pumps will remain in the reservoir to manage water levels until the end of the restoration project.

At the end of the main construction works, a new playground, similar to the previous one, will be rebuilt at the same location in the Memorial Park. The park will also be re-landscaped with trees, wildlife habitats, additional paths and a new footbridge over the reservoir's bypass channel.

The Canal & River Trust is aiming for the project to achieve a net biodiversity gain of more than 10%.



Image of the new spillway chute and stilling basin (from the computer model)



# Keeping in touch

**Tess Smith is Kier's dedicated Whaley Bridge Stakeholder Manager, who is responsible for keeping residents informed and updated about progress on the construction project.**

She is available to discuss progress and any issues at regular drop-in community hubs at the Transshipment Warehouse in the town's Canal Basin and at the Whaley Bridge Footsteps community café on Market Street.

Regular updates will be posted on noticeboards at the warehouse, cafe and site works, plus local letter drops to near neighbours about construction traffic and site activity.

Tess sends out regular updates by email. If you have any specific construction queries or would like to join the email list, please get in touch with her at: [Toddbrook@kier.co.uk](mailto:Toddbrook@kier.co.uk) or Tel: 07731 987228.

Tess Smith, Kier's local Stakeholder Manager, who is liaising with local residents and providing regular public updates on the Toddbrook construction project.



Image of the new spillway chute and stilling basin in the Memorial Park (from the computer model)



## If you have further questions about the restoration of Toddbrook Reservoir

For more information check out our Canal & River Trust website: [canalrivertrust.org.uk/restoring-toddbrook-reservoir](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/restoring-toddbrook-reservoir)

You can also contact the Project Team with any comments or questions by:

Email: [toddbrook@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:toddbrook@canalrivertrust.org.uk)