



## Basingstoke Canal Joint Management Committee 15 July 2022

### **Update: Lock Cottage, Deepcut**

Lock Cottage at Deepcut was vacated by its residential tenants in November 2021. Surrey County Council commissioned a review of the options for future land use. The Cottage was purchased as part of the Compulsory Purchase Order by the Council and, as such, its use is required to support the vision for the Basingstoke Canal:

*'To create a thriving natural environment for wildlife and public enjoyment and a vibrant recreation and heritage resource.'*

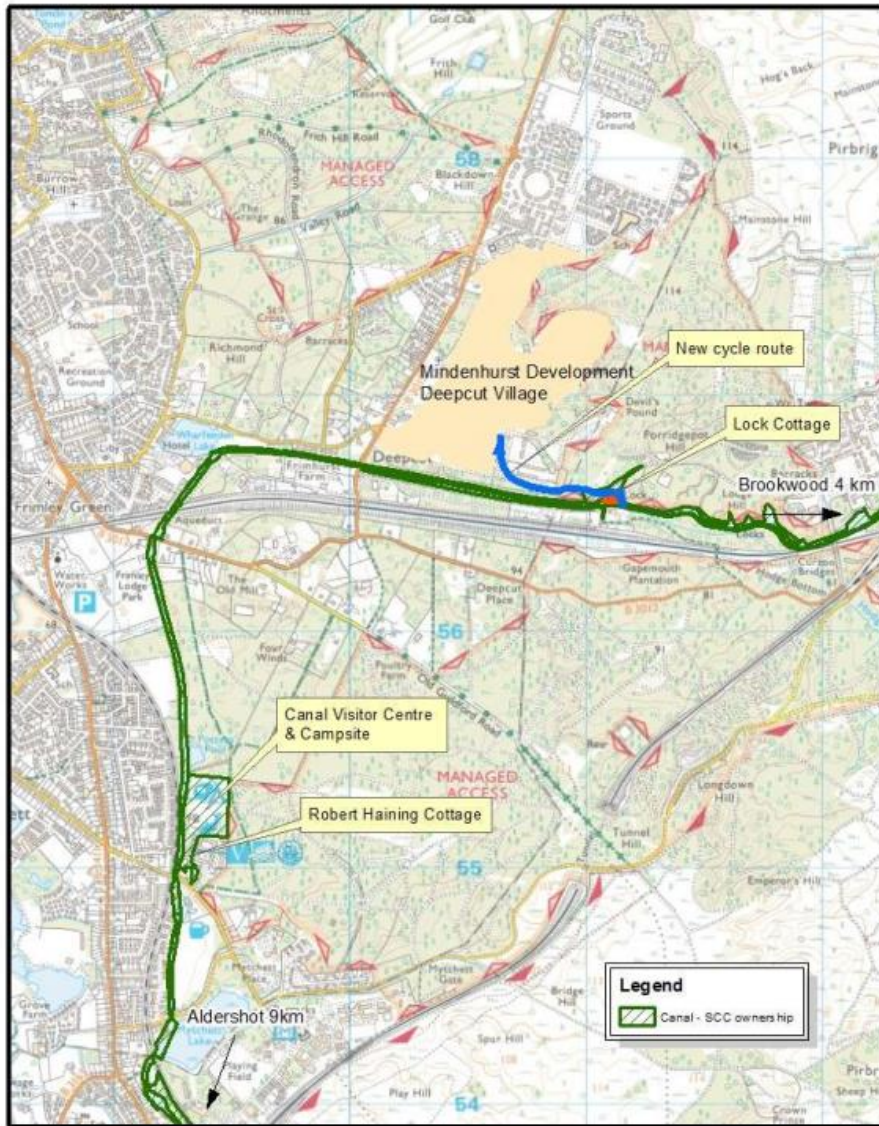
As such, various options have been considered, including commercial use for supplying food and beverages, glamping and holiday lets. Challenges include the access road and planning permission, but these are not considered insurmountable. The site may not have direct access by car but it has a regular through flow of visitors to the canal towpath in the summer and shoulder months, a significant increase in local residents living in walking distance and links to the new cycle path connecting it to new residential areas. The scheme will be commensurate with the quiet surroundings and other providers along the canal.

The Council are currently preparing to source an operator to provide food and beverage on site and are working with leisure specialist surveyors to overcome the issues identified. All funds raised by the project post investment will contribute towards the Council's contribution to the upkeep and management of the canal.

Figure 1: Location Plan

Canal Cottages - Location Plan

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Figure 2: Lock Cottage 2021

