

# Case Study 3: Signs, Bridge, Wildflowers and Owls

## The Farm

The farmer grows wheat, peas, potatoes, sweetcorn, squash, pumpkins, eggs and sunflowers over 100 hectares of farmland located on Hayling Island.

This project was a four-part project consisting of information signs, wildflower mix, a foot bridge for public access over a ditch and the provision of owl boxes around the farm.

# Information signs



Eleven information signs were designed to provide members of the public with information about the farming activities.

A large map of the farm is displayed outside the farm shop, which provides visitors with information about the different fields. A chalk board then supplies up to date field information which is important as crops are rotated around the farm each year.

This give visitors additional information about the produce that they are buying in the shop. In addition, the map provides public right of way information.

Ten smaller signs were designed and positioned around the farm and fields.

These signs provide a short description of what is going on in the fields and information about the produce being grown. They are designed to help the public understand some of the farming activities and practices that take place on the farm.

There are eight different versions of these smaller signs, titled wildlife, maize & corn, sunflowers, chicken & egg, wildflowers, bees & honey, wheat and two public right of way information signs.

The large shop sign and ten smaller signs came to a total of £4,100, of which was covered in full by the FiPL grant.



# New Access Bridge And Wildflowers

A new bridge was constructed to allow access over a ditch to connect a new permissive path to the existing footpath network.

This new route allows walkers to go around the farmyard rather than having to walk through a heavy farm traffic zone. This has resulted in a safer walk route for members of the public.

The bridge is wide enough to allow access to a wide range of users. The total cost of the bridge was £1,800 which was funded fully by the FiPL grant.

A section of a field on the farm was marked for wildflower planting, to be planted with a mix of wildflowers that would encourage bees and insect life. This would increase the biodiversity of the area. This flower mix would last for one year before needing to be moved to another location on the farm.

The cost of the wildflower seeds came to £1,600 of which the FiPL grant paid for £1,280 and the remaining £320 was paid by the farmer.



# Owl Boxes

The final part of the project was the installation of owl boxes. Due to delivery issues, the ten owl boxes were built on the farm. These new wildlife boxes have been placed across the farm, to provide a large new habitat for the owls. Two of these boxes have had webcams installed along with a 5 year plan to for maintenance and streaming. This will allow people access to see inside the nest box and watch the owls and offspring without disturbing them. These boxes have been placed in and on barns as well as in some of the large trees on the farm. The boxes have been spread across the farm to give the best coverage for the owls

The total cost of the owl boxes was £1,480. A grant of £800 was awarded towards the wildlife boxes. The web cameras came to £1,000 which was covered in full by the FiPL grant.

