



## ***CASE STUDY:*** **Extreme Wet Sites - Gabion Baskets**

## Project: The Valley Of Stone

Construction of porous, flexible surfacing bridgeway with a purpose designed gabion basket solution

**Client: Lancashire County Council**

**Procurement: Open Tender**

**Location: Bacup, Lancashire**

**Date Undertaken: 2017**

### PROJECT OUTLINE:

This project required the construction of a shared usage bridgeway using our 'nu-flex' recycled, porous surfacing process including the provision of all associated civils work.

This section of a much larger project focused on a low point on the site, adjacent to an open water course subject to severe flooding due to land slippage over a number of years. The intensity of water during wet weather is compounded by land run-off from adjacent moorlands. Our design solution included raising the level of the bridgeway by installing gabion baskets, importing stone fill and installing fencing to protect horse riders and other users of the facility.



*Nu-phalt Contracting successfully design and install a solution involving gabion baskets to eliminate the potential closure of the bridgeway due to flooding. Another remarkable piece of work from our team to the delight of residents and user groups.*

### PROJECT CHALLENGES:

Environmental – Management against the spread of invasive plant species. Working in extreme conditions.

Ecological – The bridgeway was known to be a home for bats, nesting birds, amphibians and other animals. Our staff worked in co-ordination with the client's ecologist.

Engineering – Severe flooding from moorlands and compounded by adjacent water courses. Required specific engineering design solutions to ensure the route remains operational in extreme weather conditions.

Operational – Challenging environmental and topographical constraints considered and appropriate solutions agreed and implemented.

Access was restricted and operations could only be fed from one end at a time.



### The Client:

*'Working with Nu-phalt was a refreshing experience, they delivered on time and to budget. Their approach was flexible and very professional. The nu-flex surfacing is excellent, it performs exactly as we had hoped and I have had some excellent feedback from a variety of user groups. The engineering solutions that Nu-phalt delivered for this particular section of the job were an inspired way to resolve the problems.'* Tony Lund, Senior Environmental Project Officer

## PROJECT OUTCOMES:

The finished project has attracted large numbers of positive comments from professional engineers to many user groups including; SusTrans, visiting clients, British Horse Society, ramblers, cyclists and other general users.



## BENEFITS:

The asset manager and end-users alike have welcomed a number of benefits including;

- Well drained surface due to the porosity of the material
- Easy to repair
- Visually attractive compared to traditional surfacing
- Significant reduction in the effects of ice and snow
- Surface is excellent for horse riders and cyclists
- Innovative recycled material

**Duration on site – 2 weeks**

**Environmental benefits – 1,620 recycled tyres used**

## Contact us

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