

Refurbishment of the Mosaic



Background

In 1953, the trees were planted along Bridge Street by the side of the Fosdyke Canal to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Sixty years later, in 2012, as part of the *Village Diamond Jubilee Project – A Lasting Legacy*, children from Saxilby Church of England Primary School created a mosaic mural to commemorate this event. All 280 pupils attending the school contributed to the project, supported by two ceramic artists from Zoo Ceramics.

The completed mosaic measured approximately 12ft x 3ft (3m²), comprising 216 large tiles and a frame of 88 smaller tiles. The total cost of the project was £1,010 which included design time, materials, work in school, firings, and the installation of the finished mosaic onto the flood wall.

Over time, some of the tiles began to detach from the flood wall. In 2018, for safety reasons and to ensure the mosaic's preservation, all tiles were removed. Further investigation revealed that the smooth surface and exposure to the elements made the flood wall an unsuitable location for the mosaic.

To address this, a number of workshops were held to remove the cement from the tile edges using small craft tools. Residents attended mosaic restoration workshops led by Janet Schooley, a skilled and well-known mosaic artist, to ensure careful handling of the tiles. At

this time, it was decided to mount the mosaic in a frame. However, this also proved unsuitable and the tiles once again detached from the base and frame.

In 2024, after further consultation with Zoo Ceramics, it was determined that the mosaic required a rough brick surface, such as a house wall or a purpose-built plinth, to be securely displayed.

Saxilby Waterfront Working Group was tasked with identifying a suitable location. After considering various options in the village, the group recommended a preferred site on land outside the Lincolnshire Co-op Pharmacy in Saxilby. This location was chosen for its central visible position in the village, making the mosaic easily accessible for the community to view, while also being visible enough to deter anti-social behavior. A proposal was made to the Full Council to designate this site as the location for the mosaic.

A site meeting with Lincolnshire Co-op's property surveyor followed, and it was agreed that Lincolnshire Co-op would give permission for the land to be used for the mosaic. Further research identified that planning permission would be required, however Lincolnshire Co-op did not feel able to contribute financially to this additional cost.

The challenges encountered during this project have been both time-consuming and demanding, but the Saxilby Waterfront Working Group has remained committed to ensuring the mosaic is displayed once again. The residents who participated in the project or whose children contributed to the mosaic design continue to express their desire for its reinstatement and their disappointment that it is no longer on display. The determination of the Saxilby Waterfront Working Group to preserve and showcase the mosaic for future generations has ensured that this important community artwork will not be forgotten.

Proposal

To have a project plan for Planning and Development Committee to consider and recommend to full council for approval. The builder would identify the size suitable for the plinth which would then give final costings.

Project Plan

	Progress	Action required	Action Owner
Agree a site for the mosaic	Chosen location was agreed at Full Council. Lincolnshire Co-op has agreed in principle to the chosen location.	Contact Lincolnshire Co-op to confirm and accept the offer and sign agreement	Admin (to contact the Co-op) Full Council (agreement approval)
Architectural Plans	A local architect has agreed to draw up the necessary plans for the mosaic plinth.	Provide all required details including measurements and materials to the architect	Architect Admin
Planning permission	Apply for planning permission	Finalise planning permission details and submit the application. Planning Permission £146.50. Fundraise/use council funds for application cost	Architect – draft Planning and Development Committee – review for Full Council – sign off Use council budget/Cllrs to fundraise e.g. a raffle/cake sale
Materials costs	Bricks must be sourced to match the appearance of the Co-op Pharmacy, as it is a listed building.	To seek cost of materials once they have been identified. As an indication a quote from a builder for materials is £2,400. (Looking at costs of reclaimed brick and other materials this appears to be on the high side)	Admin

Funding/Sponsorship	Look for sponsorship from large building firms, local builders, and other local companies.	Launch a social media appeal targeting local builders.	Comms
	Fundraise/apply for a grant/community sponsorship	Send letters to large construction companies for potential sponsorship. Community sponsorship (e.g. £15pp) name to go on a plaque. A local builder has offered to carry out the project if their company name is on the plinth Planning and Development Committee to accept offer.	Admin Admin Admin
	Formal opening	A formal unveiling will be organised to unveil the mosaic once it has been installed.	Plan and arrange the details of the opening ceremony. Minimal cost e.g. <£50

Recommendations:

1. To approve the project list and actions, including
 - a. Offer from local builder to build the plinth.
 - b. Use survey/legal fees budget to apply for planning permission

Example of a mosaic displayed at Waddington



Mosaic workshop

