Proposal for a Riverside Path on the Manor

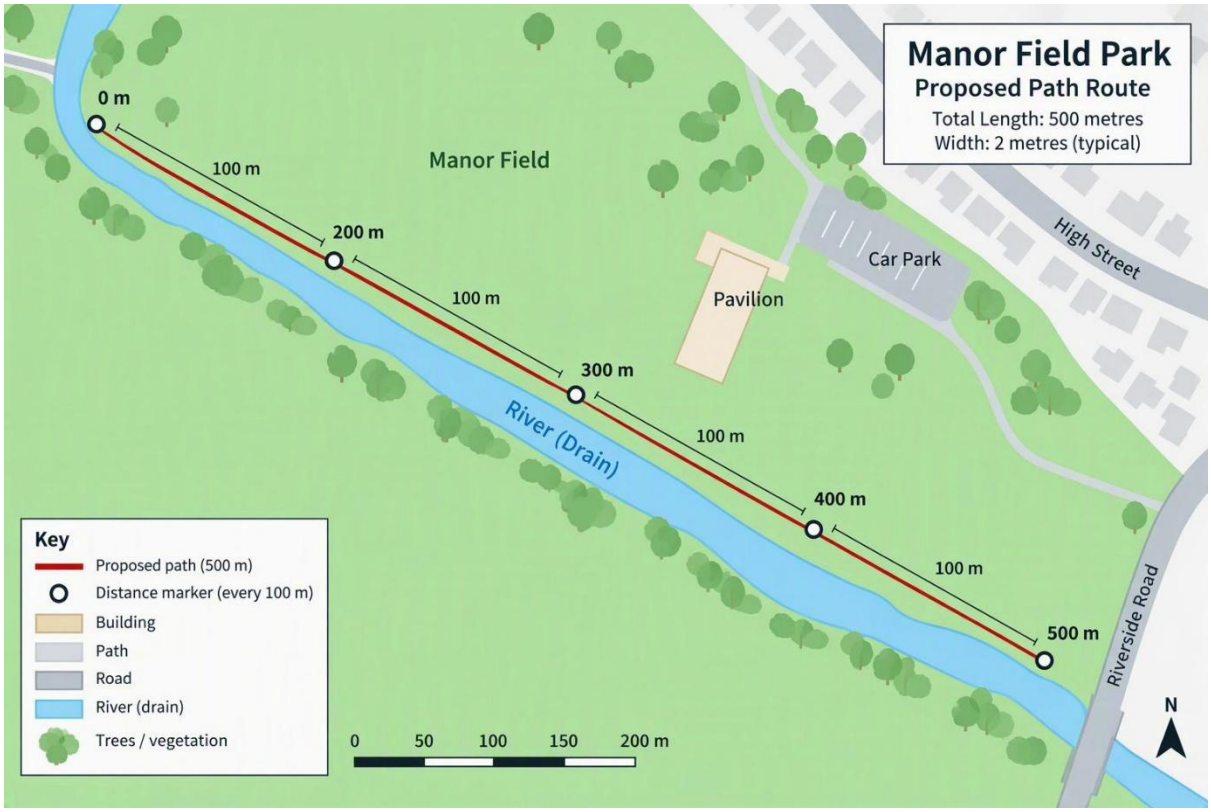
Issues with Location

From the route shown along the Briggate River Drain, the main consideration would likely be:

- Ground conditions.
- Any Environment Agency or local authority requirements.

If the field drains reasonably well and the objective is simply to create an accessible walking route, a **Breedon surface over MOT Type 1** would often be the most practical and cost-effective solution.

If you were applying for grants focused on biodiversity, climate resilience, or flood management, a **SuDS-based design** could strengthen the environmental case for the project.



Path Details

- **Length:** 500 m
- **Width:** 2 m
- **Total Area:** 1,000 m^2

Recommended Construction

For a typical public park in Peterborough/Cambridgeshire with no significant drainage issues:

50 mm Breedon Self-Binding Gravel Surface

150 mm MOT Type 1 Sub-base

Geotextile Separation Membrane

Compacted Subgrade

Why MOT Type 1?

✅ More stable and robust than Type 3

✅ Better suited to self-binding gravel surfaces

✅ Less expensive

✅ Suitable for pedestrians, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, pushchairs, and occasional maintenance vehicles

Type 3 would normally only be considered where drainage or SuDS requirements dictate a permeable construction. **SuDS** stands for **Sustainable Drainage Systems**. The aim of SuDS is to manage rainwater in a way that mimics natural drainage, rather than quickly directing water into pipes and sewers. Middle level would prefer a SuDS system to save water flowing from the path into the river. There is otherwise no difficulty with drainage as the path would be raised above surrounding area.

Material Quantities

Breedon Self-Binding Gravel

At approximately 10-12 m^2 coverage per tonne at 50 mm depth

Required:

- Approximately **85-100 tonnes**
- Allow **100 tonnes** for wastage and profiling

MOT Type 1

Sub-base volume:

- 1,000 m^2 × 0.15 m
- = 150 m^3

At approximately 2.2 tonnes/m^3:

- Approximately **330 tonnes**

Geotextile Membrane

- Approximately **1,100 m²** allowing for overlaps

Edging

Both sides:

- 500 m × 2
- = **1,000 linear metres**

Budget Estimate

Materials Only

Item	Estimated Cost
Breedon Gravel (100 t)	£6,000 - £10,000
MOT Type 1 (330 t)	£6,600 - £11,500
Geotextile	£1,200 - £3,000
Timber Edging	£5,000 - £12,000
Total Materials	**£18,800 - £36,500**

Installed Cost

Including:

- excavation
- disposal of spoil
- geotextile
- aggregate supply
- compaction
- edging installation
- labour
- plant

A reasonable budgeting figure would be:

Standard	Cost

Basic park path	£30,000 - £45,000
Typical local authority standard	£45,000 - £75,000
Heritage/public realm specification	£75,000 - £125,000+

Recommended SuDS Construction

Plain Text

50 mm Breedon Self-Binding Gravel

30-50 mm Filter Layer (optional but recommended)

150 mm MOT Type 3 Perméable Sub-base

Geotextile Membrane

Compacted Formation

Quantities

Breedon Self-Binding Gravel

- Area: 1,000 m^2
- Coverage: approximately 10-12 m^2 per tonne at 50 mm depth
- Required: **85-100 tonnes**
- Budget allowance: **100 tonnes** MOT Type 3

- Volume: 1,000 × 0.15 = 150 m^3
- Density: approximately 2.0-2.2 t/m^3
- Required: **300-330 tonnes**

Geotextile Membrane

- Approximately **1,100 m^2** allowing for overlaps

Edging

- Both sides of path
- Total: **1,000 linear metres**

Estimated Material Costs

Item	Quantity	Estimated Cost
Breedon Gravel	100 t	£6,000 - £10,000

MOT Type 3	330 t	£8,250 - £14,850
Geotextile Membrane	1,100 m^2	£1,200 - £3,000
Filter Layer (if used)	50-70 t	£1,000 - £2,500
Timber Edging	1,000 m	£5,000 - £12,000
Total Materials		**£21,450 - £42,350**

Installed Cost Estimate

Including:

- excavation
- spoil disposal
- membrane installation
- Type 3 placement and compaction
- filter layer
- Breedon surface
- edging
- plant and labour

Standard	Cost Estimate
Basic permeable path	£40,000 - £60,000
Local authority standard SuDS path	£60,000 - £90,000
High-spec public realm scheme	£90,000 - £140,000+

Additional Cost Compared with Type 1

Item	Type 1	Type 3
Estimated Project Cost	£45,000 - £75,000	£60,000 - £90,000
Typical Difference		**£10,000 - £20,000 extra**

The additional cost comes from:

- More expensive aggregate.
- Filter layers.
- More careful installation requirements.
- Additional drainage design and quality control.

Is Type 3 Worth It?

For the proposed Manor Field riverside path, I would typically choose **Type 3 only if one or more of the following apply**:

✅ The route floods regularly.

✅ The ground remains waterlogged in winter.

✅ A grant requires SuDS features.

✅ The council wishes to maximize infiltration and climate resilience.

If the ground is generally firm and reasonably free-draining, **Breedon Self-Binding Gravel over MOT Type 1 remains the most cost-effective solution**, potentially saving £10,000-£20,000 while still delivering an attractive and accessible park path.

Budget Allowances for Funding Applications

For initial project planning, I would suggest:

- **Type 1 construction:** £60,000
- **Type 3 SuDS construction:** £80,000

These figures provide a sensible allowance for a **500 m × 2 m public park path** before obtaining contractor quotations and site investigation data.

Overall Key Benefits

A 2 m wide Breedon self-binding gravel path would:

- Accommodate two wheelchairs passing.
- Be suitable for mobility scooters and pushchairs.
- Blend naturally into the park landscape.
- Require relatively low maintenance.
- Provide good accessibility without the visual impact of tarmac.
- Drain well when constructed with appropriate camber and sub-base.