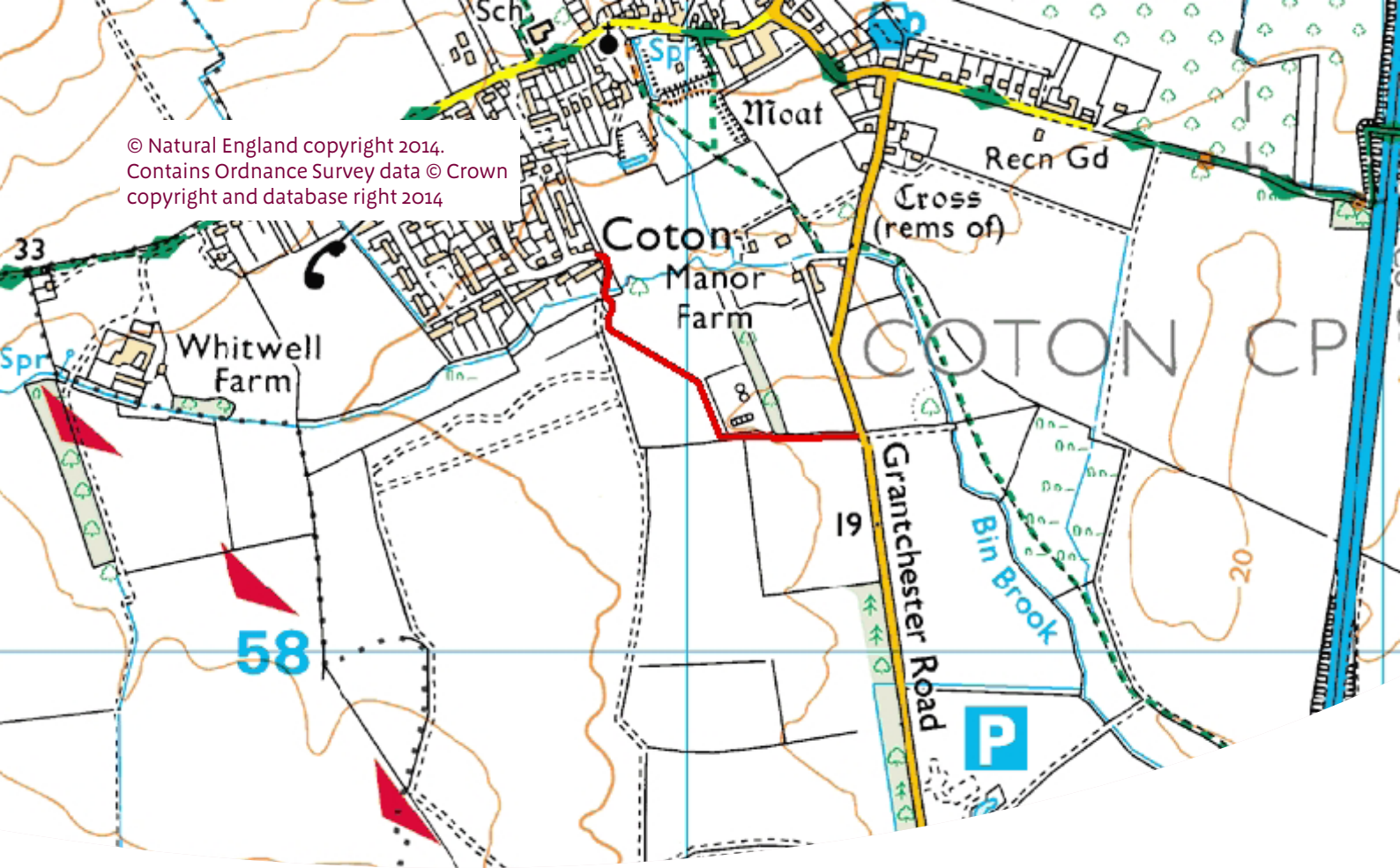


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Paths for Communities - Project summary sheet:

Coton Countryside Reserve - Bridge Project

Location:	Cambridgeshire
Right of way Created:	Bridleway
	Footpath 554 m
Improved existing rights:	n/a

Supporting local businesses:	n/a
Volunteer hours contributed:	n/a
Cost of project:	£43,475
Grant rate:	55%

Cambridge Past Present and Future (CPPF) is a small charity run by local people passionate about keeping Cambridge and the neighbouring villages and countryside special. Their plans and activities always involve excellent public engagement and it was consultation with local people that identified the need for the new bridge to connect the rural village of Coton over the Bin Brook to Coton Countryside Reserve.

The P4C funding supported the costs of replacing the dilapidated and dangerous bridge that remained, constructing it to a width that would accommodate mobility scooters and pushchairs and creating attractive paths and landscaping. CPPF also installed a water supply to feed two cattle troughs enabling them to fulfil their ambition to graze the fields to increase



This project has been funded under the Rural Development Programme for England

biodiversity. The work involved a number of different contractors which were all coordinated by CPPF.

Planning consent for the bridge had been received before CPPF applied for a P4C grant. Demolition and removal of the old bridge revealed a worse than anticipated sub-structure for which CPPF applied for extra funds to re-build. The new timber structure was installed by CPPF's ranger team and volunteers. A new linking path was created, with boundary fencing, and a fresh water supply, notice boards, habitat enhancement, and dog bins were installed. Match funding came from three charitable trusts and a local members and supporters appeal.

Work was hampered by appalling winter weather, which continued into spring but the project was completed at the end of summer. On a fine sunny day, a large crowd gathered to formally



open the bridge and walk the route now dedicated as a Public Right of Way which links the village to CPPF's countryside reserve in Coton and to the wider countryside through other footpaths in the area.

"It's wonderful - and it looks beautiful, too!" local resident at opening ceremony in June

Links

[Cambridge Past, Present & Future](#)
[Clark Bradbury Charitable Trust](#)
[Co-operative Membership Community Fund](#)
[Veolia Environmental Trust](#)
[Cambridge News coverage of Coton Nature Reserve](#)

