LIGONIEL DAMS – SITE SURVEY AND ANALYSIS

(Figure 2)

Small and attractive 1800's stone bridge

Limestone rock face

1. Dangerous drop into water at sluice outlet. Needs to be fenced
2. Remaining walls of bleach mill. Plans to convert into Environmental centre / information centre
3. Existing steps in poor condition and very overgrown. Need to be replaced
4. Mature woodland and semi-mature woodland supporting typical woodland shade plants
5. Middle dam with artificial concrete edges approximately 300mm wide and little marginal vegetation. Sporadic tree line chain sides: willow / ash / hawthorn. Some floating plants found at the shallower north and south ends. Bank could potentially be widened for disabled access.
6. Grass embankment with dominant grasses, reeds and some mature trees. Could be used imaginatively through management regime and community project
7. De silted dam with emergent marginal plants and reeds. Nesting birds spotted. Cleared vegetation on dam bank due to stabilising work. Possibility of extending existing path over new weir to create loop walk
8. Over grown section of dam which could be enhanced with marginal plants
9. Path access to dam edge.
10. Possible site for bin by for visitors. Potential entrance to site
11. Young community planted woodland with willow / hawthorn and blackthorn scrub
12. Land owned by developer and under conditions of planning to be landscaped for public use
13. Overgrown mill race fed by small streams and springs from the chalk / basalt hillside. Ligoniel Fishing club have organised to clear mill race back to fast flowing stream at base to re-divert water along to the existing pipe connection to the middle dam water at point
14. Remnants of dam weir and start of original mill race. Steep bank sides, path muddy in places. Problems of cattle coming through house / ash woodland and across path
15. Site for proposed housing development with outline planning permission. Layout to allow for vehicular access into site and to potential Environment Centre

KEY

- Existing rough meadow and grassland
- Grass bank
- Dams and associated water causes
- De-silted dam with reeds
- Cleared vegetation leaving exposed ground due to dam stabilising work
- Developer's site for new housing
- Developer's additional land
- Land leased by LVRT
- Existing woodland
- Hedge and fence in poor repair. No longer stock proof in sections
- Existing shrubs / rhododendrons
- Mature trees
- Historic features
- Important views. Could be enhanced with panoramic displays and seating
- 1.2m wide gravel pathways, need to be cleared off and repaired
- Existing grass pathway
- Pipe line connection mill race to middle dam
- Existing post and wire fencing in poor condition and need to be replaced
- Cattle breaking onto site at these points and damaging paths

Ligoniel Dams Site survey and analysis
July 2009 *(Figure 3)*

Scale 1:1250 @A1

Pathway between Wolfhill road and the Forth River