

Mill Stream Approach

Client: Blanchard Wells for Kier/Environment Agency

Value: Circa £315,000

Duration: 4 weeks

Issue

For the Mill Stream Approach project, part of the wider Salisbury River Park scheme, rotary bored bearing piles were required to facilitate the construction of a new bridge crossing. Located adjacent to a watercourse, the project presented additional logistical and environmental challenges, with piling works required on both sides of the river.

To ensure successful delivery, it was essential that ground conditions were fully understood before construction commenced. Any unforeseen ground conditions or inappropriate equipment selection could have resulted in programme delays and increased costs for the client.

Solution

To provide confidence and certainty from the outset, we arranged additional ground investigations to improve our understanding. This enabled us to select the most suitable piling equipment and methodology, ensuring the works could be completed safely, efficiently and right first time.

The bridge piling works required an inter-site move across the river to access piling locations on the opposite bank. By utilising a temporary bridge, we were able to safely relocate our plant and equipment while maintaining productivity and minimising disruption to the programme.

To further reduce risk, we carried out a preliminary trial bore before commencing the main piling works. This validated the proposed piling technique and confirmed the suitability of the selected methodology, providing reassurance to the client and project team ahead of construction.

Through early planning, enhanced site investigations and trial works, we ensured that piling operations progressed smoothly once on site. By validating the methodology in advance, we eliminated potential delays during the construction phase and maintained momentum on the wider Mill Stream Approach programme.

We have extensive experience in coastal and in-shore marine working environments. By undertaking additional investigations and trial works at an early stage, we minimised the risk of abortive works, unnecessary plant movements and programme overruns. This efficient use of resources helped reduce the overall environmental impact of the works while delivering value to the client.

Outcome

We constructed 12 (nr) 950 diameter cased piles to a depth of 22m, into a chalk stratum, across two abutment locations. The rotary bored bearing piles were successfully installed to support the new bridge structure, forming a key element of the Mill Stream Approach scheme. Through proactive investigation, innovative planning and careful management of the site's logistical challenges, we delivered a reliable and efficient piling solution.

This project demonstrated our commitment to reliability, creativity, productivity and sustainability. It enabled us to simplify complex engineering challenges, reduce project risk and deliver a successful outcome for our client.

Photographs:

