On investigating the state of the pond on the 19/05/2021 I can conclude that since the previous work it has mostly recovered and has progressed to a more stable manageable state.

Any remedial work would need to be carried out in the autumn to reduce damage and destruction to juvenile frogs and newts the latter being protected and abundant in the pond.

Any invasive work near the waters edge would need to be supervised by someone carrying a newt licence as it is a crime to handle both great crested newts and smooth newts in the UK. (Unless necessary such as if they were on a path and at risk of harm).

The sign you have produced certainly rejuvenates the information on the old sign and the additions of the new parts are well presented.

If I were producing signage myself, I would be tempted to add a section briefly explaining succession.

This process explains how if not managed a pond or purposely littered in with rubble or large sticks. The pond would gradually disappear completely. (I can elaborate in more detail)

Further to that point I have taken photos of the pond at its current state of which the vegetation surrounding is at a near optimum level. If this were maintained to this level on an annual to Biannual basis the pond would require little interference from now onward.

Urgent work: Anyone visiting the pond currently has commented on the fact that the wildlife is more visible and seemingly more diverse.

However increasing amounts of litter and large logs have been dumped into the water once again. This may seem insignificant, but the logs significantly contribute to the succession process.

I have also had reports that a traffic cone was also dumped into the pond which as subsequently sunk to the bottom this will need to be removed if possible.

I can do the removal of the logs rubbish and cone myself like I have done in the past.

The pond is not the only place where work in the area needs doing especially after events of flooding, the community payback scheme could significantly help in reducing litter along the banks of the Alne and surrounding woodland.

I have seen all sorts dumped in the river and washed up over the years and nothing is more important than clean water. (A risk assessment would need to be produced for any work done near the riverbank).