

# Ouse Washes Middle Level Barrier Bank raising works

August 2022

The Middle Level Barrier Bank is the bank of the Ouse Washes reservoir extending from Earith to Welmore Lake Sluice. The work we are doing is to comply with recommendations made by the Reservoir Inspecting Engineer to complete the works under the Reservoirs Act 1975.

The project is being carried out by JacksonHyder on behalf of the Environment Agency

This year's works are well under way and the full road closure is in place at Welney for the demountable flood barrier construction. **There is no access for vehicles of any kind across the A1101 at Welney Bridge in either direction.**

## Progress

### Bank works and haul road

- Completed the haul road raising works between:
  - Earith and A142 at Mepal
  - A142 at Mepal and Welches Dam
  - Welney to the railway bridge
- Working to complete the bank raising works between Welches Dam to the Railway bridge.
- Raised a section of bank between A142, Mepal and Welches Dam.
- Completed the winter repairs.
- Started laying armour lock between Earith and Sutton Gault.

### Welney demountable flood barrier & road closure update

20/07/2022 to 25/08/2022 - full road closure

26/08/2022 to 16/09/2022 - 2-way traffic lights for reinstatement works

Work completed to date:

- Completion of the abutment walls either side of the road
- The road surface has been planed and excavated for the beam across the road
- fixed the steel work for the new concrete beam and started the concrete pours.

The public footpath from Welmore Lake Sluice to Welney Bridge and from Welney Bridge to the Railway Bridge will remain closed until the end of construction. Please follow the diversion along Low Bank.

Watch an animation of the construction works here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSY0haa1zEw>

### RSPB Ouse Washes Reserve

- Bank raising works started in July and is due to be complete in September.
- The reinstallation of the fencing and gates will start in September and will be completed in October
- Installation of the final bird hide will start during August and be completed in October.

The bird hides will be closed during construction. Please follow the RSPB webpage link: [RSPB Ouse Washes](#) for up-to-date closure/re-opening information.



## Local community engagement

### WWT Wetland Centre Welney

The Wetland centre is open as usual and remains accessible via the A10 through Ten Mile Bank and through our road closure from the A10 at Littleport. There is no access across the A1101 at Welney Bridge in either direction. We have put some extra signs up to help avoid any confusion.

### Lamb & Flag - Welney surgery events

The Lamb & Flag in Welney is open as usual and remains accessible via the diversion routes. There is no access across the A1101 at Welney Bridge in either direction. Please follow the diversion signs.

If you would like to find out more about the project or have any concerns, join Yazmin or Monica for a cuppa in an informal and friendly environment every **Thursday at the Lamb & Flag in Welney, between 3pm and 5pm.**

### Welney Residents Rec and Green Spaces Users Group

Welney RUG are creating a new gym activity area at the Sandgate Meadow Park and the area needed some groundwork preparation beforehand.

We were happy to help, our site Project Manager Tim Honeyball worked with Paul and Peter to understand what needed to be done. We started by scraping the land to level the area, we recycled the tarmac planings that were excavated from the road to create a base layer ready for the surface to be laid.



During tidying up a group of lively children and their parents visited who wanted to know what we were doing. Tim explained to them what was happening and how important it is to support the community. Little Arthur even got to dress up in Tim's site gear and he was most definitely ready to lend a hand. Maybe a future Civil Engineer?

Arthur's Mum, Laura said 'It's made my little boy's day. The area is looking really great, and it will be exciting when it's all finished'. *Photo courtesy of Laura Gleave*

### Welney Parish Council

We are looking forward to attending the next meeting on 6 September. We will provide an update on the progress of the project including the Welney demountable flood barrier construction.

### Visit our virtual room

To view the virtual exhibition, click here: <https://eaousewashesbanks.co.uk/> the room will remain open until September 2022.

We will also continue to use the onsite noticeboards in Welney and at the RSPB to keep you up to date.

## Contact us

Stay up to date and visit our information page for the most up to date information using the link below.

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-anglia-c-e/ouse-washes-section-10-works/>

If you have any questions or concerns about this project or would like to be added to our mailing list for regular updates, please contact our Public Liaison Officers:

**Monica Stonham or Yazmin Parry via email [ousewashesprojectea@gmail.com](mailto:ousewashesprojectea@gmail.com)**

**or call Monica 07534 457348 / Yazmin 07496 760446**