

# Environment Agency Update

Beales Corner, Bewdley

February 2023

**The Environment Agency project team, together with the local community and local authorities, is working to develop a flood risk management scheme for Beales Corner in Bewdley. This newsletter is to provide the latest update on the project.**

Following flooding in the town in 2020, your local Member of Parliament, Worcestershire County Council, Wyre Forest District Council, and Bewdley Town Council have been working with the Environment Agency to further reduce flood risk in the town. Worcestershire County Council have made £500,000 available towards a flood risk management scheme, which was further supported by £6.2 million of Government funding. This was subject to there being a viable and cost-effective proposal which was economically viable with public money.

## Important February 2023 update



As residents of Bewdley you will be aware that Beales Corner is subject to significant flood risk from the River Severn and has flooded a number of times. Most recently in 2020, 2021 and 2022 where homes and businesses were flooded, and the wider community impacted.

After the flooding in 2020 funding was made available by the Government for impacted communities, this enabled the Environment Agency to consider a flood risk management scheme for the Beales Corner area of Bewdley.

We are now well advanced in developing a flood risk management scheme for Beales Corner. The scheme aims to reduce flood risk to the residents of Beales Corner whilst maintaining vehicular access during a flood event across the bridge, benefitting the Beales Corner community and the wider Bewdley community. The proposed scheme consists of a combination of demountable flood barriers and permanent raised walls with glass panels on top.

The planning application was submitted for the proposed scheme December 2022. The planning documents can be found here: [22/1034/FUL](https://www.gov.uk/consult/condocs/22/1034/FUL). We are hoping to receive planning permission in the coming weeks.

The ambition is for the main construction phase to begin in the summer of 2023. From the 13 February we shall start the next phase of work that will enable the main construction works in the summer. This work is to remove trees and vegetation along the waterfront by Beales Corner and divert electricity and BT utilities. Once the scheme is completed new tree planting will be undertaken by the Environment Agency to mitigate for the lost trees.

To allow the tree works to be safely undertaken the following traffic management will be required:

- A road closure on Stourport Road from the entrance to Millside Court to the junction with Kidderminster Road;

- Two-way traffic lights on the Kidderminster Road (B4109) on the bridge ramp on the left bank of the River Severn

This traffic management will be in place for approximately three weeks from 13 February 2023. The Environment Agency understands the disruptions of traffic management and takes the impact that these works will have on businesses and properties very seriously. For this reason we have combined the tree removal works and the utilities diversion works to all be undertaken at the same time to minimise future impacts and avoid peak times like the Easter holidays.

## Contact Us

Please contact [BLBFRMS@Environment-Agency.gov.uk](mailto:BLBFRMS@Environment-Agency.gov.uk) if you have any queries or comments. Alternatively, please contact us via your town council.

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