

Tenbury Wells

Flood Risk Management Scheme

Newsletter December 2023

Welcome to the December edition of the Tenbury Wells FRMS newsletter. Here, we'll give an update on project progress, share key information on current activities and provide a lookahead of what we'll be doing over the coming months.

Collaborative workshops

The ongoing workshops have been instrumental in understanding the critical areas of the scheme and shaping the next phase of the project.

In October, we completed the Church Street Workshop, where we brought together representatives from the St Mary's Church Parochial Church Council, and the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Worcestershire County Council, Tenbury Town Council, Malvern Hills District Council, and Historic England.



Church Street Workshop: At the Regal 26/10/23

The purpose of this session was to consider a shortlist of three design options, against the multiple constraints in this area. These include the complex faculty and Listed Building Consents to allow any works to St. Mary's Church assets (given its Grade II* listed status), the sensitivity of disrupting an historic, active graveyard, impact within the conservation area, Highways consents, potential loss of parking, and local impact during delivery.

This workshop was a huge success, and we were able to reach a consensus with stakeholders, and agree that the 'highway' option, was the most feasible, given the challenges in this location. This area remains complex, and we are continuing to work closely with key stakeholders to progress the design in this location.

In November, we completed the Temeside House Workshop, where we engaged with similar key stakeholders, alongside Tesco, Severn Trent Water, and local business owners.



Temeside House Workshop: Site Walkover 22/11/23

The purpose of this workshop was to share the latest design and construction plans for the proposed defence wall alongside Temeside House, discuss the key constraints in this location and develop ideas to resolve them, through collaboration.

Whilst significant challenges remain for this area of the scheme, the workshop was incredibly useful, and we continue to work closely with key stakeholders to progress this area of the design.

In December, we completed the final workshop, which concentrated on Teme Bridge. This focussed on existing utilities and potential diversions required, ahead of constructing the flood defence walls and gate. A major aspect was also considering construction access, and the highway impact during delivery. We have agreed a collaborative approach to early site investigation across the bridge surface, to fully understand the location of existing

utilities. In preparation for the disruption caused by the site investigations and during construction, we have agreed a framework to work with the County Council's Highway teams, to effectively coordinate the traffic management. We will do this in collaboration with Tenbury Town Council, local businesses, and organisations, to minimise impact on the community, the local economy, and local events.



Teme Bridge Workshop: At the Pump Rooms 12/12/23

Project cost assessment

Now that we have completed the workshops, we have more confidence in our design and delivery approach, particularly in those more challenging areas. We are therefore developing a revised project cost assessment, that will incorporate the relevant design changes that were agreed at the workshops and consider the impact of rising material costs. This will help us re-evaluate the affordability of the project, remeasure the funding gap and ultimately reassess the schemes' financial viability.

Engagement

Communication and engagement remain a top priority. We continue to attend the Tenbury Town Council's monthly Full Council Meeting, where we provide a full project progress update. We also attended the Tenbury Area Partnership (TAP) meeting on 21/11/23 to present a project update and answer key questions from the group. We also joined the Flood Action Group (FLAG) meeting on 27/11/23, which is facilitated by the National Flood Forum. These sessions continue to add value to the project, by building relationships with local stakeholders,

facilitating meaningful technical discussions, and creating a collaborative environment to move the project forwards.

Conservation & biodiversity

Our environmental specialists have visited Tenbury recently, to carry out surveys to understand otter and badger habitats. These form part of our broader biodiversity enhancement initiative, reflecting our commitment to preserving and nurturing the natural ecosystem alongside our flood risk management objectives.

Looking forwards

As the holiday period approaches, we extend our thanks to the wider Tenbury community, for your continued support and patience, while we work through this challenging phase of the project.

We look forward to building on the positive progress made and continuing our close working relationships with stakeholders and the wider community.

Communication

✳ **Public Engagement:** Public drop-in events are being planned for the new year.

📧 **Newsletters:** We will continue to update you via these newsletters.

Stay Connected: For project related questions, please contact us via our dedicated email inbox:
Tenbury.FRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk

Further information

All project updates can be found online:
<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/tenbury-wells-flood-risk-management-scheme>.

To receive our newsletter directly, please email your contact details to Tenbury.FRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk or call our National Customer Contact Centre during office hours on 03708 506 506.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update.