Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme

Project update

April 2021

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This document provides an update on the Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme. It has been sent to addresses who have been identified as either being direct beneficiaries of the new flood defences or directly impacted by the construction work. It will also be shared via our electronic mailing list and made available on our webpages.

Announcement of start of construction

Ever since we received planning permission for the Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme on 14 August 2020, we have been working with our contractors and City of York Council (CYC) to successfully discharge CYC's planning conditions. We are now happy to announce that we have received approval from CYC to begin construction of the Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme. Site compound preparations are expected to begin during the week commencing 3 May 2021, whilst the main construction work will begin during late May and is expected to be completed by Spring 2022.

Key aspects of the scheme

Our construction team will initially focus on building the site compound, which will be located on a field on the north side of Church Lane. This location was chosen following the advice of CYC, in order to ensure the compound was sufficiently far away from Bishopthorpe Infant School. In addition, the site is less vulnerable to flooding than alternative locations considered in the area. Having the site compound so close to the working area will also help limit the distance construction vehicles have to travel (see Figure 1). The first few weeks are likely to be some of the most disruptive, as our contractors bring a large amount of material and welfare cabins to the site. However, we want to assure residents that this will only be for a few weeks.



Figure 1 - Illustration showing works site, construction compound and the access route between them

Traffic coming to the works and compound sites will be directed from the A64 down Sim Balk Lane past York College, turning into Church Lane. This avoids the main entrance to the infants' school, the junior school and Main Street. We are planning to avoid deliveries at peak times for pick up/drop off to minimise the impact on school congestion. Furthermore, all staff will be instructed to park within the site compound. We will install traffic lights and signed diversions when necessary.

All construction works will take place between the hours of 08:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday and Saturday 09:00 to 13:00. However, please note that we will only be carrying out work on Saturdays in exceptional circumstances.

Once the site compound is completed, work will begin to construct the flood defences on Chantry Lane. The scheme will include the construction of an approximately 180 metre-long flood wall bordering The Dell (Figure 2), with a 6 metre-deep steel barrier underground; a flood gate across the bottom of Chantry Lane; and a new manhole chamber with a penstock mechanism (essentially alterations to the existing Yorkshire Water drainage system).



Figure 2 - wide-angle illustration of the new flood wall, running along Chantry Lane and Bishopthorpe Road

To reduce impact on residents, the work has been planned to be completed in phases. Construction works will start at the end of Chantry Lane and work back towards Main Street then along Bishopthorpe Road. As Chantry Lane will be subject to a road closure, access to the riverside permissive path from Chantry Lane, will not be possible.

Noise and vibration monitoring equipment will be installed and monitored during our key construction activities. In addition, specialist noise and vibration minimising piling equipment will be used.

When construction is complete, we will return both the work area and the site compound to their previous condition. This will include replanting the hedgerow that is to be removed in order to give access to the compound on Church Lane and reinstalling streetlights on Chantry Lane, which will be temporarily removed during construction.

How can I contact the Environment Agency?

If you have any questions about any information in this update, or any other aspect of the scheme please contact us, or our contractor BAM Nuttall, via email. You can also sign up to our mailing list to get future correspondence via email. We will be sharing updates on our scheme via our website, email newsletters and social media pages.

- Email the Environment Agency at: <u>vorkfloodplan@environment-agency.gov.uk</u>
- Email BAM Nuttall for construction work or site compound related queries at: <u>rebecca.stone@bamnuttall.co.uk</u>
- Webpages: https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/yorkshire/yorkfas/
- Facebook: search for 'York Flood Alleviation Scheme'
- Twitter: @EnvAgencyYNE
- Post: FAO: Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme Team, York Flood Plan Team, Environment Agency, Foss House 1-2, Peasholme Green, Kingspool, York, YO1 7PX

- Phone for general inquiries: We encourage members of the public to contact the team by email. However, if you are unable to access emails, you can ring our National Customer Contact Centre (NCCC) on 03708 506 506. NCCC will note down your query, send it on to the project team and then a member of our team will look to ring you back.
- Alternatively, for construction and compound related queries, you can ring BAM Nuttall's community engagement officer, Rebecca Stone, between 9:00 and 17:00 Mon Friday on 07900711136
- In case there is an emergency outside of working hours, please ring the Environment Agency Incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60.