

Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme

Project update

July 2021

This document provides an update on the Bishopthorpe Flood Alleviation Scheme. It has been shared via our electronic mailing list and made available on our webpages.

Work we have done so far

Our contractors, BAM Nuttall, started construction work on the scheme the week commencing the 3 May 2021. Since then, the team has completed the construction of the construction site compound on Church Lane, set up vibration and noise monitors on Chantry Lane and begun removing Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam (both invasive species) close to where the new flood wall will be built. They've also disconnected the Bishopthorpe Palace from the mains power and connected them to generators, and removed one of the five lampposts, with the remaining four lampposts to come out this week.

In addition, the construction team has installed a machine on Chantry Lane to pump surface water between manholes whilst they carry out their work. The pump should only operate when water levels reach a certain threshold, however, there was a fault with the pump initially which meant that the pump was running constantly. Although the pump is a modern 'super silenced pump', it still generates some noise and as such, we apologise for any inconvenience caused to residents. This issue has been rectified, with the pump only operating for five hours last weekend. Additionally, the site team has installed some acoustic barriers around the pump, which will reduce the noise levels further when the pump is running. It is expected that the pump will be in place for two months.

The next stage of construction

Next week (the week beginning 5 July 2021), the construction team will begin the work on Chantry Lane to install a 6-metre-deep steel barrier underground (Figure 1), which will run underneath the entire length of the new flood wall. This barrier will help prevent flood water from circumventing the flood wall as, without the barrier, flood waters would seep through the ground and pass underneath the flood wall, causing flooding on the other side.

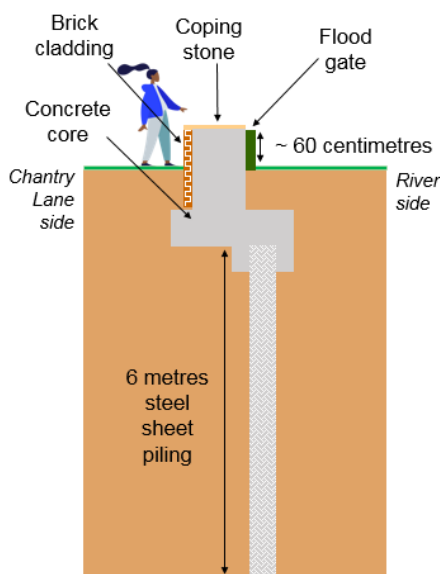


Figure 1 - Illustration of piling work to be undertaken on Chantry Lane



The barrier consists of metal sheet piles that are pushed into the ground. The method of piling we have chosen (known as the press piling method) produces a very low vibration rate, which helps to limit the risk of damage. In addition, to further 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. Noise and vibration monitoring equipment has been installed and will be monitored during our key construction activities.

It is anticipated that this piling work will take 2 months to complete.

As Chantry Lane will be subject to a road closure, access to the riverside permissive path from Chantry Lane, will not be possible until December 2021.

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.

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. Please note that BAM has a new community liaison officer, Brian Hall.

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: yorkfloodplan@environment-agency.gov.uk
- Email BAM Nuttall for construction work or site compound related queries at: brian.hall@bam.com
- 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 new community engagement officer, Brian Hall between 9:00 and 17:00 Mon - Friday on 07423 694783.
- In case there is an emergency outside of working hours, please ring the Environment Agency Incident hotline on 0800 80 70 60.

