

## Managing Flood Risk in Northwich

Newsletter 6 – February 2015

This is our sixth newsletter keeping you up to date with the plans to reduce the risk of flooding from rivers in Northwich.

The Environment Agency and Cheshire West & Chester Council have secured £5 million to design and build a sustainable flood risk management scheme in Northwich. The scheme will seek to reduce the risk of flooding from the Rivers Dane and Weaver to around 500 local homes and businesses.

Half of the money was secured from a special growth fund set up by the government following extensive flooding across the UK in 2012. This was made available for the construction of flood defences that would encourage economic growth. The proviso with the funding is that the scheme works have to commence by March 2015.

### Progress Update

Since the last newsletter, issued in September 2014, we have submitted our planning Permission application and been granted permission. Over January and February we have continued to develop our detailed design and have collected additional information via dive surveys and buried service surveys.



In the final detailed design we included solutions that incorporate glass panels which maintain connectivity to the river. These will also help to improve the quality of the riverside

environment and are tried and tested flood defences in locations such as Keswick and Waterford.

We have checked the robustness of some of the demountable defences and closing gates that we will have to install and working on those solutions so that they tie in well with the existing and planned developments at Hayhurst Quay and Barons quay.

We have completed tree clearance works over the last two weeks prior to bird nesting season in preparation for the main works. In most cases where trees have been removed as part of the works, we will replant trees once the works are complete. Works on the main the site compound started on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb.

The Contractor, a consortium of Black & Veatch and Galliford Try (GBV) will start the construction of the flood defences along Weaver Way from the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.

## Supporting economic growth

We meet regularly with Cheshire West and Chester Council to ensure our plans dovetail with the wider capital investment programme in Northwich, including the Barons Quay and the Memorial Hall developments and the Gyrotory works. We are working with the Canal and Rivers Trust and all the locally affected stakeholders to ensure that we maximise any opportunities of working together and look to minimise any disruption during construction.

## Find out more and have your say

The site office, located on the gyrotory on the right hand side just after Victoria Bridge, will be open from the 9<sup>th</sup> March.

## Project timeline

The following dates are indicative only at this stage, but show the steps we need to take to finalise the plans and begin construction of the flood defences:

**Spring 2015:** Construction begins. We have a programme of works but are looking to commence works on Weaver Way and Whalley Road Playing Field.

**Summer 2016:** Construction complete.

## How can I find out more?

We plan to continue our regular newsletters to keep the local community updated on progress. We will be working closely with various agencies including Cheshire West & Chester Council, Northwich Town Council, United Utilities, The Canal & Rivers Trust,

If you would like further information, please contact the Environment Agency direct:

- Call David Brown at the Environment Agency, on 01925 542269 or email him at

customer service line  
03708 506 506

[david.j.brown@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:david.j.brown@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
incident hotline  
0800 80 70 60

floodline  
0845 988 1188

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

- Write to the Environment Agency at Richard Fairclough House, Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HG.
- Follow us on Twitter @EnvAgencyNW
- Find us online by visiting [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and searching for 'Northwich Flood Risk Management Scheme'.

## Be prepared for flooding

Even with flood defences in place, you can never entirely remove the risk of flooding. It is important that you prepare for this by phoning our Floodline, on **0845 988 1188**, to find out if you can sign up for free flood warnings. You can also get information on developing a flood plan, putting together a flood kit and other ways of preparing for flooding by visit our website at: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and searching for 'prepare for a flood'.

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