



Environment Agency Update

Ben Hughes
Project Director
4 October 2017

Foss Barrier Progress

- Construction is on schedule
- Roof is complete and internal walls are going up
- We will operate from the new building this winter
- The station remains operational
- Planning application submitted for change in cladding material



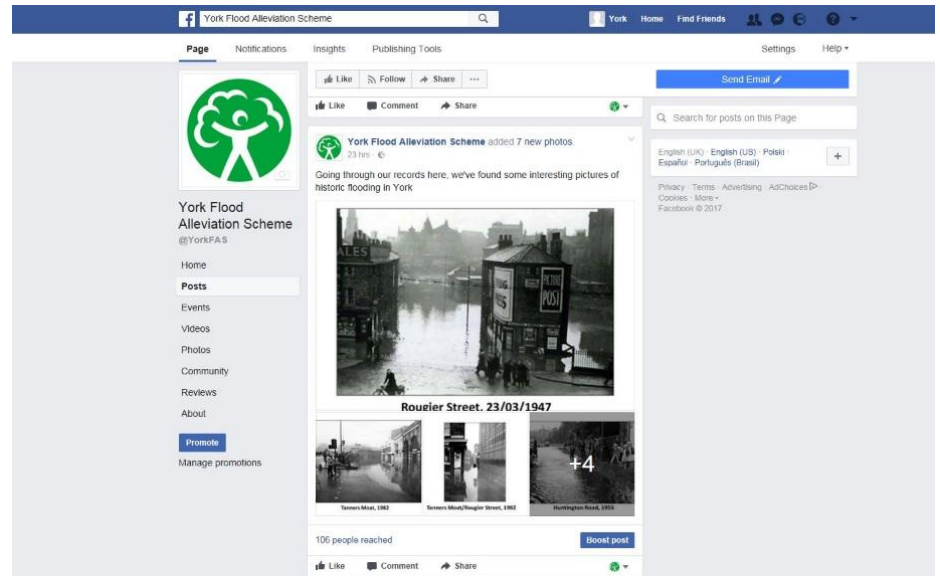
Survey Work

- Topographic surveys undertaken by drone
- Threshold surveys now complete
- Ecological surveys have just begun
- Currently scoping ground investigation works



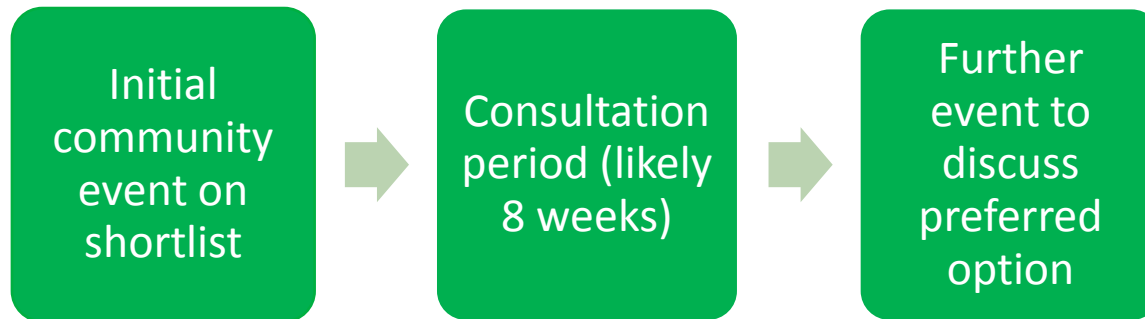
Engagement

- New Facebook page to keep residents informed of progress: search **@YorkFAS** on Facebook
- Advisory Group of key stakeholders to inform development of projects
- York Hub lease now agreed



Shortlisting Options

- Survey work informs options appraisal
- Looking to create a shortlist of potential options
- Community consultation will follow



Engagement Programme

Date	Activity	Location	Detail
7 Sep	York FAS Advisory Group	Foss House	Inaugural meeting of advisory group made up of key stakeholders from across the city.
22 Sep	Meeting with Cllr Crawshaw	Clementhorpe	Meeting to discuss our approach to developing a new scheme for the area
16 Oct (tbc)	Fishergate Ward Meeting	Fishergate	Provide update on progress and outline options
10 Nov	Newsletter	Citywide	Quarterly newsletter on our work in York
22 Nov (tbc)	Initial Clementhorpe Residents Meeting	tbc	Provide details of proposed flood alleviation measures around the Clementhorpe area, and information about how to comment
22 Nov – 21 Jan	Further engagement on options for Clementhorpe	tbc	Opportunity for residents to comment and likely a number of 1:1 meetings to discuss specific components of the scheme
6 Dec (tbc)	York FAS Advisory Group	tbc	Meeting of key stakeholders across the city. Likely to discuss aligning our programme with other events across the city to minimise disturbance

Long Term Plan



Slowing the Flow, a long-term plan for York

Introduction

In November 2016 we published our York 5 Year Plan, setting out options for new flood defences within the city. This is as a direct result of the £45million secured from government in the aftermath of the December 2015 floods. This plan looked at new and improved flood defences within the city.

This work is essential to better protect the city over the coming years, but there is a limit to how high we can build flood walls and embankments. As our climate changes and flood risk worsens we will need to reduce and slow the flow of water into the rivers of York. This will maximise the lifespan of the hard defences. We have now completed a 'Slowing the Flow' study for York, looking at long-term measures to reduce flood risk on the Ouse and Foss.

Why is this needed?

Records show that on average, the peak river level in the centre of York has been increasing annually over the last century. This increase means that the level of protection offered by York's flood defences is decreasing over time. With current land usages and climate change, predictions show that this trend will continue. Unless we can slow the flow upstream, it is predicted that in 100 years' time the flood defences in York will need to be 90cm higher just to offer the same standard of protection as they do now.

Future Options

Improvements to York's flood defences within the city represent the best short term measure to protect the city. In the long-term our options can be split into two broad categories.

Engineered storage areas can hold back and slowly release huge volumes of water. They alter large areas of farmland and in general provide greater benefit the closer they are to York. We already have a number of storage areas upstream of York, and we will look into how best to optimise their effect during floods.

Natural Flood Management is a term that covers a wide range of measures, usually making fairly subtle changes to land management or drainage and small watercourses. Cumulatively these measures can be effective, but they do need to be very numerous and the flood risk benefit of any individual action can be very hard to quantify.

The well-known Pickering Flood Alleviation Scheme used a combination of storage areas (below right) and Natural Flood Management (below left) to reduce flood risk. On the following page is a review of how this could apply to York.



customer service line
03708 506 506

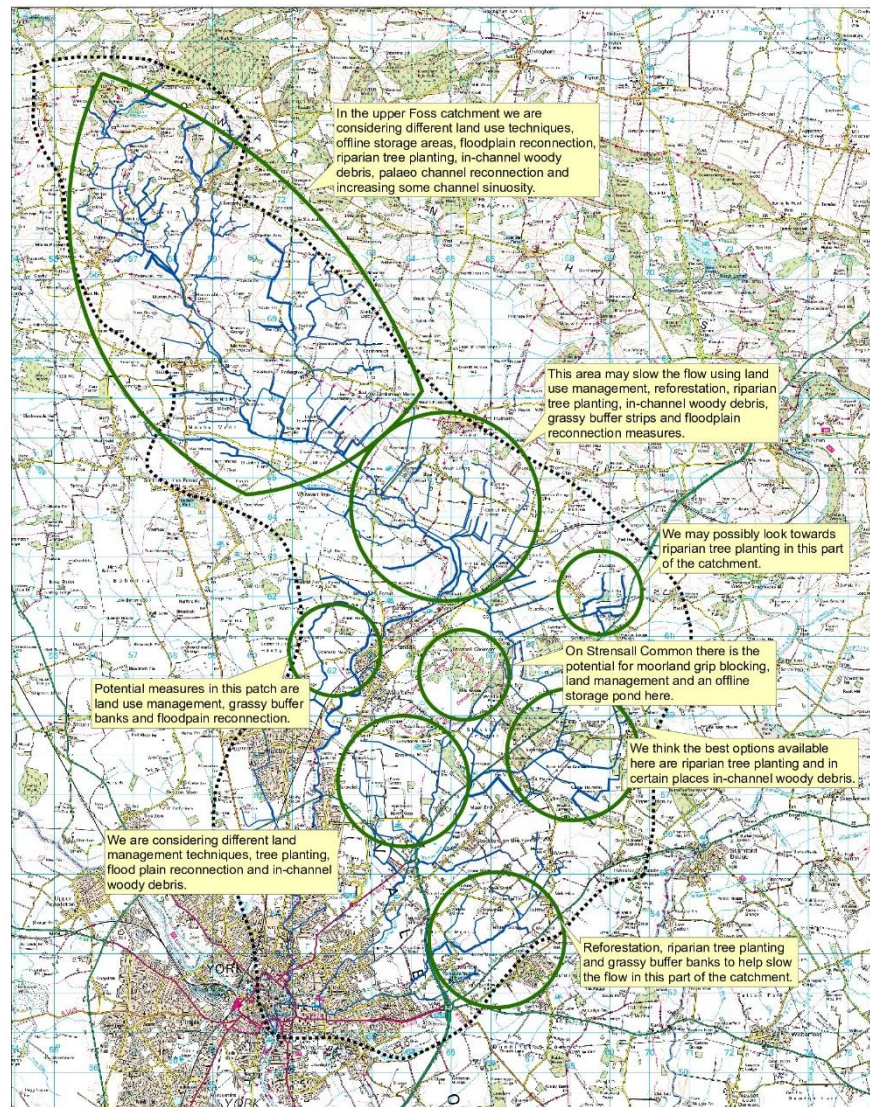
incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

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River Foss: Potential Natural Flood Management



Legend
 Internal NFM Zone
 River/Floodbank
 Urban Development Boundary

0 0.6 1.2 1.8
 Kilometres
 0 0.6 1.2 1.8
 Miles
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