

# Redbourne Parish Council

Parish Clerk – Holly Hanson  
Appledore, 26 Main Street, Horkstow, Barton-upon-Humber, DN18 6BG  
Email: [clerk@redbourneparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@redbourneparishcouncil.gov.uk) Tel: 07393 21 30 30  
[www.redbourneparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.redbourneparishcouncil.gov.uk)



## Notes of the Redbourne Flooding Update meeting held at 11.30am on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

### **Present:**

Ward Councillors:	Cllr Neil Poole Cllr Trevor Foster
NLC Officers	Chris Ramsbottom - Head of Service Assets and Infrastructure Alan Drury - North Lincs Council Mike Brown – North Lincs Council Mike Simpson – North Lincs Council Mick Johnson – North Lincs Council
Redbourne Parish Council:	Cllr Lynn Wainwright, Chair. Holly Hanson, Clerk to Redbourne Parish Council

2 members of the public attended.

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Chris Ramsbottom opened the meeting by apologising that commitments to weekly updates and monthly meetings had not been met, but assured attendees that these commitments would be met going forward.

Mike Brown gave an update on works progress to date.

**Proposed new headwall and trash screen and associated culvert works at B1206** – The Design of the headwall and Trash screen located off the B1206 is complete.

A Bill of Quantity for the works have been produced and issued to the Internal Drainage Board Contractors for pricing.

Drop crossing works to provide access to the trash screen for construction and maintenance are now complete. This headwall and trash screen works will need to be implemented following construction of the Upstream Storage pond and downstream relief channel works in order to mitigate against any further exceedance events.

Currently the trash screen is being visited every other day (or as required) on maintenance grounds.

**Downstream flood mitigation works (Emmerson House area)** – Preliminary design and modelling works have been completed to restore the existing channel through the curtilage of Emmerson House. Further Levels and survey work have been carried out by NLC W/C 12/04/21 surrounding the culvert located within Emmerson House. Initial discussions held with IDB to ascertain Contractor availability and future works programme.

W/C 19/04/21 Further site meeting programmed with IDB Contractor to discuss final Design, site access/egress, site compound, overhead powerlines and PRoW access etc.

Meeting also required with Landowner regarding potential access from School Lane/field entrance into Emmerson House.

Detailed design and materials specification to be produced by NLC with anticipated completion by early May 2021.

Early May 2021, Design package for PRoW box culvert and Emmerson House to be issued for pricing.

Early June 2021, receipt of pricing, internal assessment by NLC and sign off.

July 2021 commence works on site, this programmed start date is dependent on legal issues been fully resolved and relevant permissions in place.

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**Downstream flood mitigation works (Relief Channel)** – The Design of the downstream relief channel element is now complete. NLC Estates & Property Team are currently engaged in negotiations with the Landowners regarding land acquisition options. The programme and delivery of this phase of works will follow on from any such agreements.

It is noted that during the recent inclement weather a temporary relief channel in the field beside Emmerson house was constructed following agreement between local Landowners with recompense agreed by NLC. NLC would like to thank all involved.

The flood mitigation scheme will however propose a permanent engineering solution in this area.

Works have been undertaken by NLC for the clearance of the Riparian section of beck from PRow to outfall ditch and culverts. This has removed the accumulation of stone washed down from upstream and helped to reinstate the beck to capacity in this section.

**A15 Island Plantation flood storage area** – The design of the upstream storage element, following input and investigation by NLC has been completed w/c 22/02/21.

NLC Council are currently engaged in negotiations with the Landowners regarding land acquisition options. The programme and delivery of this phase of works will follow on from any such agreements.

Appropriate landscaping and management of the upstream storage element pond will be key to the holistic flood mitigation scheme. These details are currently under discussion and will be progressed through direct discussion with the landowner.

A query was raised over the design of the relief channel, as it appears to divert around a tree at The Gables.

Alan Drury responded stating that the discharge into the existing water course is on the right-hand side of the tree, and that this would be the clearer route due to obstructions on the left hand side.

An additional query was raised about the necessity for the relief channel once the issues at Emmerson House were rectified.

Alan Drury responded stating that the Pell Frischman modelling showed that it is still necessary.

Cllr Foster identified that NLC Estates Team were not present at the meeting, despite being heavily involved in discussions on the Flood Alleviation programme, and that there was a need for a representative of the team to be at future meetings.

Chris Ramsbottom stated that they would be invited to future meetings, however, may not be able to answer many queries due to legal responsibilities for confidentiality.

Cllr Poole highlighted the quantity of water that flows into the Beck from West of the A15, raising concerns that there would be sufficient capacity in the attenuation pond to accommodate all the water from the catchment area, which extends to Kirton Lindsey. Nothing has been put forward in terms of restricting the flow under the A15, and a valve or gate is required to reduce flow as it is the water from Kirton Lindsey that is causing issues within Redbourne.

A member of the public stated that they did not feel that that was the issue, rather the issue was increasing the flow through the village to get rid of the water as fast as possible. Nothing has been mentioned about culvert replacements which is essential, going on to highlight that the cost of culvert replacement was minimal in comparison to the cost of works for the attenuation pond, citing that the flooding experienced by the Village in February was due to a blockage in a culvert, that NLC were not aware of. Box culverts and regular maintenance are essential.

Cllr Wainwright raised that in terms of looking holistically at the alleviation scheme, there was a need to look downstream of Redbourne, as when the sluice gates are closed on the River Ancholme there is nowhere for the water to go once it leaves Redbourne. Cllr Wainwright queried what effect a second attenuation pond to the West of the A15 would have, and cited that maintenance is the key.

Cllr Wainwright also queried whether the capacity was actually achievable in the attenuation pond?

Mike Brown stated that the modelling showed that there was a slight excess in capacity.

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The culverts have been looked at, and the existing culverts do restrict flow, but the effect of this would be worse without the attenuation pond. In addition, the culverts are within a conservation area and are believed to be riparian owned, so negotiations with landowners would be necessary to address these.

Cllr Wainwright cited that there was still no plan for the project with indicative timeframes.

Chris Ramsbottom stated that all projects are run within a project management plan with dates, however some are still an unknown.

Cllr Wainwright responded that there was a need to see firm dates and timeframes, citing that the trash screen drawing was dated September 2020, and they have yet to go out to tender 6 months after, stating that there seemed to be no urgency on the part of NLC.

Chris Ramsbottom stated that this was an holistic plan, and as such the project needed to be completed in one go.

Cllr Wainwright asked if pumps were therefore available for Redbourne, as the 2007 flood occurred in June, and there is no confidence in the situation within the community.

Chris Ramsbottom confirmed that NLC will respond to any emergency flooding situation.

Cllr Foster spoke to support Cllr Wainwright stating that we are in unique times in terms of freak weather and that Redbourne needed optimum flood mitigation without reduction in any of the current plans.

Cllr Poole highlighted that a comment had been made around works at Emmerson House requiring permission from a neighbouring landowner, and asked if there was an issue with that?

Cllr Poole stated that Emmerson House appeared to be key to the project, and the plans are in place, and queried why this could not progress as a matter of priority.

A representative of the landowner stated that they had only been informed of the situation the day before and that they were still awaiting details of what was required in terms of timescales, compound size type of machinery, which was necessary before they could proceed with the request.

Cllr Wainwright asked if the issue at the Anglian Water Pumping Station had been resolved?

Alan Drury committed to respond to this query by 5pm on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Chris Ramsbottom closed the meeting by affirming the commitments to presenting weekly update reports and asked how frequently meetings needed to be held.

Cllr Foster stated that these needed to be 3-weekly as there are a lot of issues outstanding and there was a real need to regain credibility and confidence which have been eroded by the appalling communications.