

Redbourne Parish Council

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Notes of the Redbourne Flooding Update meeting held at 2pm on Monday 1st November 2021, via Microsoft Teams.

Present:

Ward Councillors: Cllr Trevor Foster
Cllr Neil Poole

NLC Officers
Chris Ramsbottom - Head of Service Assets and Infrastructure
Alan Drury - Drainage Project Manager
Mark Drust - Flood Risk & Surface Water Engineer
Mick Johnson - Highway Operations Manager
Mike Brown - Highway Asset Manager
Andrew Taylor – North Lincs Council

Redbourne Parish Council: Cllr Lynn Wainwright, Chair, Redbourne Parish Council .
Holly Hanson, Clerk to Redbourne Parish Council

No members of the public attended

Apologies were received from Cllr Rob Waltham – Leader, North Lincs Council.

Chris Ramsbottom opened the meeting.

Mike Brown gave an update on works progress to date.

Proposed new headwall and trash screen and associated culvert works at B1206 – No progress.

The headwall and trash screen works will follow on from the Emmerson House channel works. It is anticipated the programme of works will take 2-3 weeks to complete.

Downstream flood mitigation works (Emmerson House area) – No progress.

The programmed dates for these works have now been delayed several times from the original planned start date of 23/08/21. The IDB Contractor has encountered supply chain difficulties in procuring the pre-cast concrete channels required for the work. Although the Contractor has now confirmed delivery of materials the works are now programmed for 6th December 2021, this is due to other work commitments with the IDB. Cllr Wainwright stated that residents of Redbourne had no confidence in these start dates, as it has been continually changed and delayed.

Cllr Foster stated that this project had had severe communications issues historically, and despite fortnightly updates being agreed, all are now being kept in the dark again. The fortnightly updates need to re-start. Chris Ramsbottom stated that NLC Officers will go back to the IDB Contractor and ask for the date to be improved upon, with a commitment that 6th December 2021 will be the latest start date.

Cllr Poole stated that he had visited Redbourne on 3rd October 2021 and witnessed gallons of water pouring from the A15 and Scawby direction, commenting that the only reason that there wasn't a flood was lack of recent rainfall, however he cited that that would not be the case as we progress through Winter and the ground becomes saturated.

Cllr Poole asked what capacity there was currently and what contingency was in place in the event of a flash flood.

Mick Johnson stated that they had additional pumps this year, with sandbags available alongside regular inspections and a 24hr phone number in event of a flood.

Redbourne Parish Council

Cllr Poole asked if the emergency channel at the rear of Emmerson House was still open and still clear, it was confirmed that this had now been blocked off by the landowner. Cllr Poole highlighted this as a significant issue.

Chris Ramsbottom stated that North Lincs Council were aware that Redbourne was a hotspot.

Mike Brown continued with the update:

Downstream flood mitigation works (Relief Channel) – No progress.

The landowner is satisfied that once the upstream storage area is complete and works within Emmerson House are complete the diversion channel is not a necessity. It is noted that the Flood modelling carried out by NLC's Consultant did not back up this assumption.

Cllr Foster stated that this matter needed to be pursued immediately, and that if land needed to be acquired it should be done by compulsory purchase.

Chris Ramsbottom stated that the Estates Team have been pursuing the matter as Pell Fischmann modelling still shows that the channel is necessary.

Mike Brown reported that they are working with Pell Fischmann to see the impact of not having the channel. Cllr Poole stated that this issue placed further importance on the works at Emmerson House being completed as soon as possible so the effect of those works can be seen in inclement weather over Winter.

Cllr Wainwright reiterated again that all work appeared to be centred on the downstream elements of the project and stressed the importance on the upstream attenuation pond and its effect on the whole project. Work on Emmerson House would not protect the properties in Beck Lane. The upstream storage area needs addressing and works progressed in order to have an effect for this location.

Cllr Wainwright asked if the Attenuation Pond had been redesigned. It was confirmed that the design had changed but that the new design had not been shared as it was sited on private property. The design had not changed significantly but had been tweaked as a result of the latest modelling and outcome of the site meeting of 29th June 2021.

Chris Ramsbottom committed to share the design with attendees.

Cllr Wainwright asked if work carried out on the weekend following 29 June 2021 had any impact on the design of the pollution pond which as it stands at the moment is ineffective in periods of heavy rainfall.

Cllr Poole asked what capacity was deemed necessary in the revised drawings, and how those figures had been calculated as sufficient to protect properties in the Village.

Mark Drust, stated that the capacity was 4,500 cubic metre capacity was required, that the model had used the catchment area back to the Cliff at Kirton and had assumed that the land was completely saturated. The design offers a 1 in 100 plus climate change solution. They are still awaiting the resultant discharge rate figure from this design. They have also ascertained that the highway drainage from the A15 runs into the pollution pond.

Cllr Poole stated that there was a need to be able to increase flow rate in order to free up capacity to prepare for prolonged rainfall events.

Cllr Wainwright asked if the landowner had seen the plans. It was confirmed that he had and was on board with the plan.

Cllr Wainwright stated that there had been repeated requests for the Project Plan, but that to date one had not been received.

Mike Brown stated that they were still awaiting information from Pell Fischmann, once that had been received they could compile a programme for construction and completion, but that this could not be done when there were still unresolved issues.

Redbourne Parish Council

Cllr Wainwright stated that the Parish Council could not offer any information or reassurance to residents, when they were not receiving any information themselves, citing that this was the only meeting since June 2021.

Cllr Poole stated that Communication remained very poor and that this needed rectifying immediately, with all parties being kept in the loop.

Cllr Foster requested that a Project Plan be produced immediately, irrespective of delays from land acquisition issues and construction material delays.

Cllr Wainwright highlighted that rubble remained in the culvert at School Yard after jetting and that the resident had complained of damage to their garden during the jetting process.

Alan Drury confirmed that it had been cleared, but that high flows will bring rubble down the Beck. It was also cited as a health and safety issue physically getting the rubble out, as cannot physically pick it out. The last jetting using a sledge jetter had resulted in 20 tonnes of rubble being removed from the Beck. With the culvert under the B1206 being jetted and lined over August Bank Holiday.

Chris Ramsbottom stated that the riparian rights and maintenance responsibilities needed to be promoted and adhered to by the riparian owners.

Cllr Wainwright requested that all reports, plans and updates be circulated to all parties.

Actions:

- Arrange next meeting – to take place before 6th December 2021
- Circulate NLC emergency out of hours contact number to all parties.
- Updated plans for the design of the attenuation pond to be circulated
- Project Plan to be produced
- Fortnightly paper updates to be reinstated.
- Pursue land acquisition issues and look at compulsory purchase if necessary
- Request IDB Contractors improve on 6th December 2021 start date for Emmerson House, with a commitment that this date will be the absolute latest start date for works.
- School Yard culvert to be assessed.