

### An update from the Environment Agency



River Calder at Padiham

#### What is the flood risk?

Padiham flooded significantly in December 2015. The main watercourses posing flood risk to properties, businesses and infrastructure are the River Calder and Green Brook.

Although the December 2015 flood was exceptional, some flooding in Padiham currently has a 5% chance of occurring in any one year.



Current river flood risk map, Padiham

#### The Environment Agency is working to reduce Flood Risk in Padiham

We are currently developing a £8.7 million scheme that will significantly manage flood risk in Padiham. This also includes calculations for additional flows as a result of climate change, meaning the town will be protected for years to come.

The initial proposals were shared at community drop-in events throughout 2018 and, after further required changes and fund raising, these are ready to be progressed to detailed design. The current proposals will be shared in autumn 2019, so that people can let us have their comments.

#### PADIHAM GROWTH: COMMUNITY DROP-IN EVENT

**Our next community update will be held at Padiham Town Hall on Monday 7th October 2019 (14:00 - 20:00).**

Everyone is welcome. You will be able to:

- See displays of the latest flood defence proposals before the detailed design begins.
- Discuss the proposals directly with EA staff.
- Find out how the scheme may affect you.
- Give us your feedback on the proposal.
- Find out what you can do to reduce the effects of flooding.
- Sign up to the Flood Warning Service.

Our partners will be showcasing their ambitious plans as part of a multi-million pound Padiham Growth investment. Burnley Borough Council, Lancashire County Council and Homes England will share the latest plans for a Public Realm proposal, Townscape Heritage project and the redevelopment of the former BAXI industrial site.

#### What has been done so far?

We have updated the river models to better understand flood risk in the town, using evidence from the 2015 flood. Options that could be put in place to better manage flood risk have been identified and assessed.

The proposed preferred outline design for the scheme has been completed, as have ground investigations to test the soil and rock conditions.

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership via Burnley Borough Council and the Northwest Regional Flood and Coastal Committee have contributed £3 million and £1.3 million, respectively.

The current proposals include walls and embankments on the River Calder and Green Brook. Flood risk will also be reduced with the planned modification of bridges on Green Brook. A drain will help manage surface water flooding caused by heavy rainfall on Burnley Road (A671).

All proposals are still subject to planning permission, permitting, consenting and securing of all funding. We will also incorporate any comments from the local community and other stakeholders.

### Looking ahead

In addition to the community drop-in, we will be discussing and developing the proposals with landowners for the remaining part of 2019. We will also continue to provide further opportunities for the community to let us have their thoughts via contact details in this newsletter.

Once the proposals have been shared we will undertake the detailed design and submit the planning application and permitting by spring 2020.

Pending final approvals of the detailed designs, securing all funding and obtaining planning and permitting permission, the current target is to start enabling works in autumn 2020. For example, this will include diverting services within the ground and the preparation of land for construction.

We are aiming for the primary construction phase to start before the end of 2020. Details of where and when flood defence works will occur are still to be agreed and will be shared at a later date.

### Silt / Gravel Removal - Padiham Bridge

In September 2018 we removed silt and gravel from under the dry arch on Padiham Bridge (the A671 - Burnley Road bridge).



Gravel cleared from Padiham Bridge, March 2019

Computer modelling of the River Calder has since been completed using new and improved flood data. This has enhanced our understanding of the impact of gravel on flood risk throughout Padiham.

The improved understanding confirms that gravel removal on the River Calder will not have a significant impact on reducing flooding once the new walls are built. And so while we may continue to remove gravel in this location, we are likely to reduce the frequency at which we do this.

### Community Resilience Group

Newground have been supporting the Padiham Flood Resilience Group to help local residents and businesses become more resilient to flooding and other emergencies.

New members are required to enable the group to continue and be more proactive.



If you are interested in being part of this group please contact Andy Ainsworth at Newground via email at [andy.ainsworth@newground.co.uk](mailto:andy.ainsworth@newground.co.uk)

### Where can I sign up for flood warnings to my phone/email?

You can receive flood warnings directly to your landline and mobile phone. These warnings give you the opportunity to put your flood resilience plans into action, such as raising furniture and making sure you have everything you need with you in case you need to evacuate.

You can find out if you live, or have a business, in a flood warning area and register by searching for your location at:

<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

Alternatively, telephone **Floodline: 0345 988 1188** (24-hour service check your tariff rates)

### National Incident Hotline

To report an environmental pollution or flood related incident such as discoloured water, blockages in rivers, damaged or collapsed river/canal banks, unusual changes in river flow or flooding from a river or the sea call:

**0800 80 70 60 (24-hour service Freephone)**

### Staying in touch

If you would like to be added or removed from our mailing list, or for any further information, please contact us via email or post at:

[CMBLNC-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:CMBLNC-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Or

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