

**Welcome to the second newsletter from the Environment Agency, keeping you up to date with our plans to manage flood risk in Rickerby and the surrounding area.**

### The Scheme

There have been a number of local news reports earlier this month highlighting that the Carlisle flood risk scheme works will be paused for a short period over the winter months due to the current ground and river conditions.

The works on the Carlisle scheme are to be paused but this does not include the flood scheme for Rickerby. The project team were asked if there was a need to pause the works due to the conditions but the decision was made not to pause work at Rickerby.

It's also worth noting that last month's two day road closure was nothing to do with the flood scheme and was for work being undertaken by a utility provider.

Likewise the tree that fell at the entrance to Rickerby Park next to the cattle grid was nothing to do with the flood scheme. It fell over naturally with our contractors contacting the local council and police in order to get the tree moved and the road re-opened.

### Progress update

The archaeological works have been ongoing since the end of August and have lasted longer than expected, this has been due to some periods of wet weather as well as a number of findings within the area of the new road construction. Whilst none of the findings to date will stop the flood risk scheme in Rickerby it has obviously had an impact on the programme of works. Once the findings have been completely catalogued we'll provide you with details of the findings.

The vast majority of the temporary site compound is now set up. We expect this to be completed in the next couple of weeks once the site is signed off by the archaeologist.

Following archaeological investigation, we will move onto construction of the new road which passes through the field to the north of Rickerby.



Above: Site compound set up

### Upcoming activities

Following completion of archaeological investigation and road construction, our contractor VBA will establish a temporary access road through the rear of properties along Brunstock Beck and commence construction of the flood walls and embankments

### Construction access

Construction access will be off the A689 through Linstock. There will be significant amounts of vehicle movements along this route throughout the construction period to deliver construction material and plant to site.

We will endeavour to avoid peak traffic times for deliveries and access through Rickerby Park will be maintained for the duration of the works for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. We will endeavour to keep this route clear of debris from our activities.

Our contractor will not be accessing construction working areas through Rickerby Gardens.

## Programme

The original construction programme has obviously been affected by the ongoing archaeological investigations the project team are working hard to meet the following programme:

- *November 2019: Completion of archaeological investigation and preparation of site compound in the north field*
- *November - December 2019: Construction of new alignment for Rickerby Park Road*
- *November - December 2019: Construction of temporary access route behind Rickerby Gardens*
- *December 2019 - May 2020: Construction of flood walls and embankments to properties along Brunstock Beck and along the existing Rickerby Park Road*
- *May 2020: Removal of site compound and completion of works*

A significant amount of construction activity is weather dependant, however, we are sequencing our works to try and avoid these activities being undertaken during the wet winter periods.

## Be prepared for flooding

It is also important to plan how you'll respond to a flood. Visit <https://www.gov.uk/prepare-for-flooding/future-flooding> and use the template to make a personal or community wide flood action plan.

The community can find more information about funding flood risk management schemes at [www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org](http://www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org)

To sign up to receive free flood warnings and for information on how to protect your home or business from flooding, please call the Environment Agency's Floodline on 0345 988 1188, or visit the Environment Agency website [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

## Stay in touch

We will keep you up to date with newsletters and regular updates we provide to the Rickerby Tactical & Working Group.

If you would like to share any thoughts you might have on the flood risk management scheme or would like to know any further information, please contact Gareth Hamlett, Flood and Coastal Risk Management (FCRM) Project Manager on 02030 256 991 or email [gareth.hamlett@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:gareth.hamlett@environment-agency.gov.uk).

You can also go online to [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) for more information about The Environment Agency or follow us on Twitter @EnvAgencyNW.