

Welcome to the fourth 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

In 2019, the Environment Agency received planning permission from Carlisle City Council for the construction of new flood defences for Rickerby Village. The scheme will comprise of 400m of new flood defence walls, 100m of raised flood embankment along Brunstock Beck and a new alignment to Rickerby Park Road to prevent Brunstock Beck flowing along the road into the village.

When completed, the scheme will reduce the risk of flooding to 34 properties in Rickerby Village up to the water levels experienced during Storm Desmond in winter 2015.

The impacts of Storm Ciara and Dennis have further highlighted the flood risk in Rickerby however these shouldn't significantly impact the construction programme.

Progress update

The archaeological watching brief has now been completed with no additional findings

Construction of the main works is now well underway, as of January 2020. To date, these works have included;

- Widening of Rickerby Retreat secondary access which was required to enable us to use the main access to construct the haul road behind Rickerby Retreat, Rickerby House and the properties on Rickerby Court.
- Construction of the haul road to enable us to build the flood defence at the rear of Rickerby Court properties.
- The start of construction of the new highway has begun.
- The earth embankment flood defence at the rear of properties 5&6 Rickerby Court is now complete.

- Large sections of the concrete flood wall to the rear of Rickerby Court properties and adjacent to the highway have been constructed and the brickwork cladding will begin in June
- Piling work is currently ongoing at the side of Rickerby retreat and this is expected to be completed in the first week of June.
- Brickwork cladding has begun on the flood wall adjacent to the new highway



Above: Piling to the rear of Rickerby Retreat



Above: Flood wall to the rear of Rickerby Court properties

Upcoming activities

Works will continue with the pouring of concrete for the flood walls.

Access steps for landowners over the flood wall will be constructed

Brickwork cladding will progress on the wall adjacent to Brunstock Beck and the new Highway.

Works will continue with the construction of the new highway and footpath.

Landscaping and reinstatement works will begin.

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 are aware that due to Covid 19 more people are working from home we've asked all delivery drivers to reduce their speed further and highlighted the fact that there are more cyclists and walkers using the route

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 revised construction programme, following the archaeology works, has been further impacted by contractual issues, these are now resolved. More recently Covid 19 has impacted how the works have been managed on site and the project team are working hard to continue to meet the following programme:

January - September 2020: Construction of new road and footpath

- March 2020 - September 2020: Construction of flood walls and embankments to properties along Brunstock Beck and along the existing Rickerby Park Road*

- September 2020: Flood defences are watertight*

- September - December 2020: Landscaping and de-mobilisation.*

Considerate Contractor

Our contractors VBA are signed up to the Considerate Contractors scheme and as such are looking for any small community projects or ideas that they could possibly assist with in either Rickerby or Linstock.

Any ideas can be sent on to the EA Project Manager, email gareth.hamlett@environment-agency.gov.uk.

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

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

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.

You can also go online to www.gov.uk for more information about The Environment Agency or follow us on Twitter @EnvAgencyNW.