

Managing flood risk in Threlkeld

Following a period of heavy rainfall in February 2019 two culverted sections of the Gategill Beck collapsed, partially blocking the culvert and leaving dangerous and unstable ground around them. To reduce the flood and public health and safety risks from these collapses Environment Agency's contractors carried temporary emergency repair work to remove the debris from the watercourse and stabilise the culverts. This was completed in March 2019.



Since 2019 we have been working closely with specialist engineers and contractors to identify and design a suitable long term solution which would reduce the flood risk from the failing culverts on Gategill Beck, which are an historic legacy of the lead mining in Threlkeld. From our studies we have identified that the safest and most cost effective solution is to replace the whole culvert.

Culvert Replacement Works

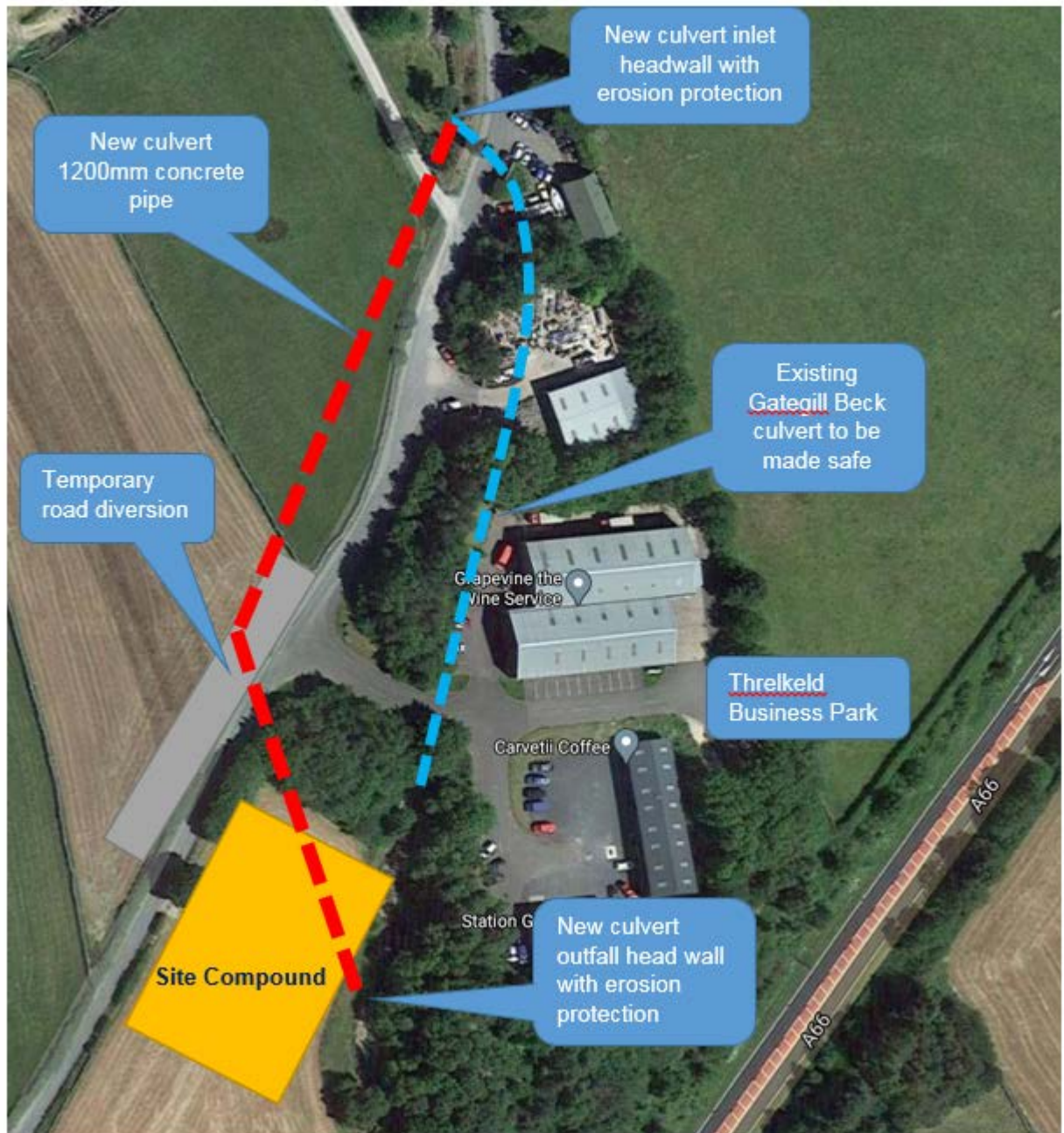
The proposed works will involve diverting the existing watercourse by constructing a new culvert inlet and head wall and installing a new 1200mm diameter concrete pipe in the fields on the North side of Fellside Road. The new pipe will cross the road close to the entrance of Threlkeld Business Park and will outfall through a new headwall into the existing open channel section of river at Town Cross. The existing culvert will then be made safe and filled in. Some erosion protection work to the existing open channel will also be required at the upstream and downstream extents of the new culvert.

When Will Construction Start?

We have secured Government funding to enable us to undertake these works and have been working over the last few months to finalise plans and designs. Following consultation and agreement with the land owners affected by the works it is anticipated that construction work will

commence in May 2021, and will take approximately 8 months to complete. This timeframe will be dependent on weather conditions and river levels.

Plan of the proposed works



How our works will impact you

Unfortunately there will be some traffic disruption to Fellside Road and the access track to Gategill. Whilst access will be maintained to properties and businesses at all times, there will occasionally be some minor delays whilst plant and machinery are moving in the area. We have already felled some trees and removed hedgerows in the area so that we could begin the work this spring / summer without disrupting the bird nesting season and other wildlife. The works will be undertaken by our Framework Contractor Volker Stevin. They will listen to residents' concerns to accommodate their needs and minimise disruption wherever possible.

Working with the community

We have been working with Cumbria County Council, land owners, local residents and businesses directly affected by our works to keep them informed of our plans.

Covid-19

The Environment Agency are committed to delivering this scheme to better protect homes and businesses in Threlkeld and as such we, and our Contractors, are following Government and Public Health England guidance. This is to ensure the safety of the local community and all of our staff.

Further details including drawings can be found here www.thefloodhub.co.uk/your-local-area/cumbria/#section-2

If you would like to contact us with any enquiries related to this project please contact the project manager Graham Stanger – **graham.stanger@environment-agency.gov.uk**

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