

Low Crosby

Location, development and flood history



Source: Environment Agency

Where is Low Crosby?



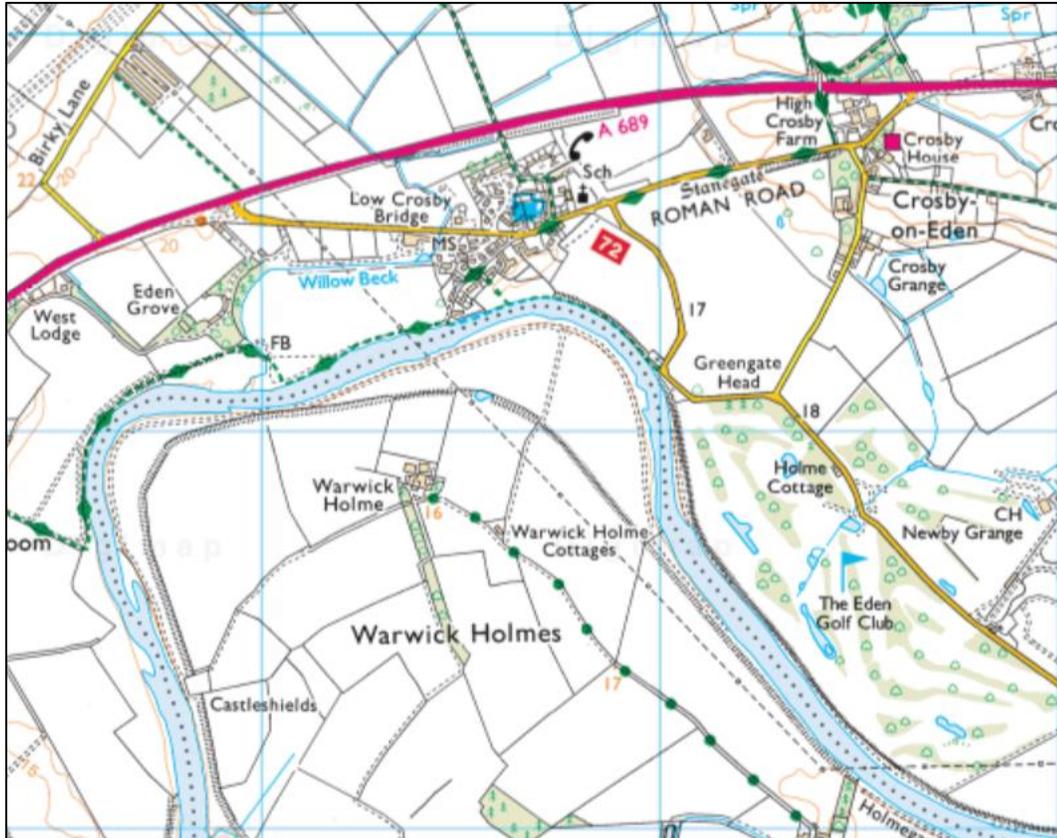
- Low Crosby is a village located about 7km north-east of Carlisle.
- The village is situated on the north bank of the River Eden.
- Low Crosby is located on the former Stanegate Roman road.
- Hadrian's Wall passes approx. 2km to the north, with Hadrian's Wall Path located within the village.

1 km

Sources:

- <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/eLibrary/Content/Internet/544/3887/6729/6733/4279482729.pdf>
- <https://www.postcode-info.co.uk/low-crosby-info-54219.html>

The Village of Low Crosby

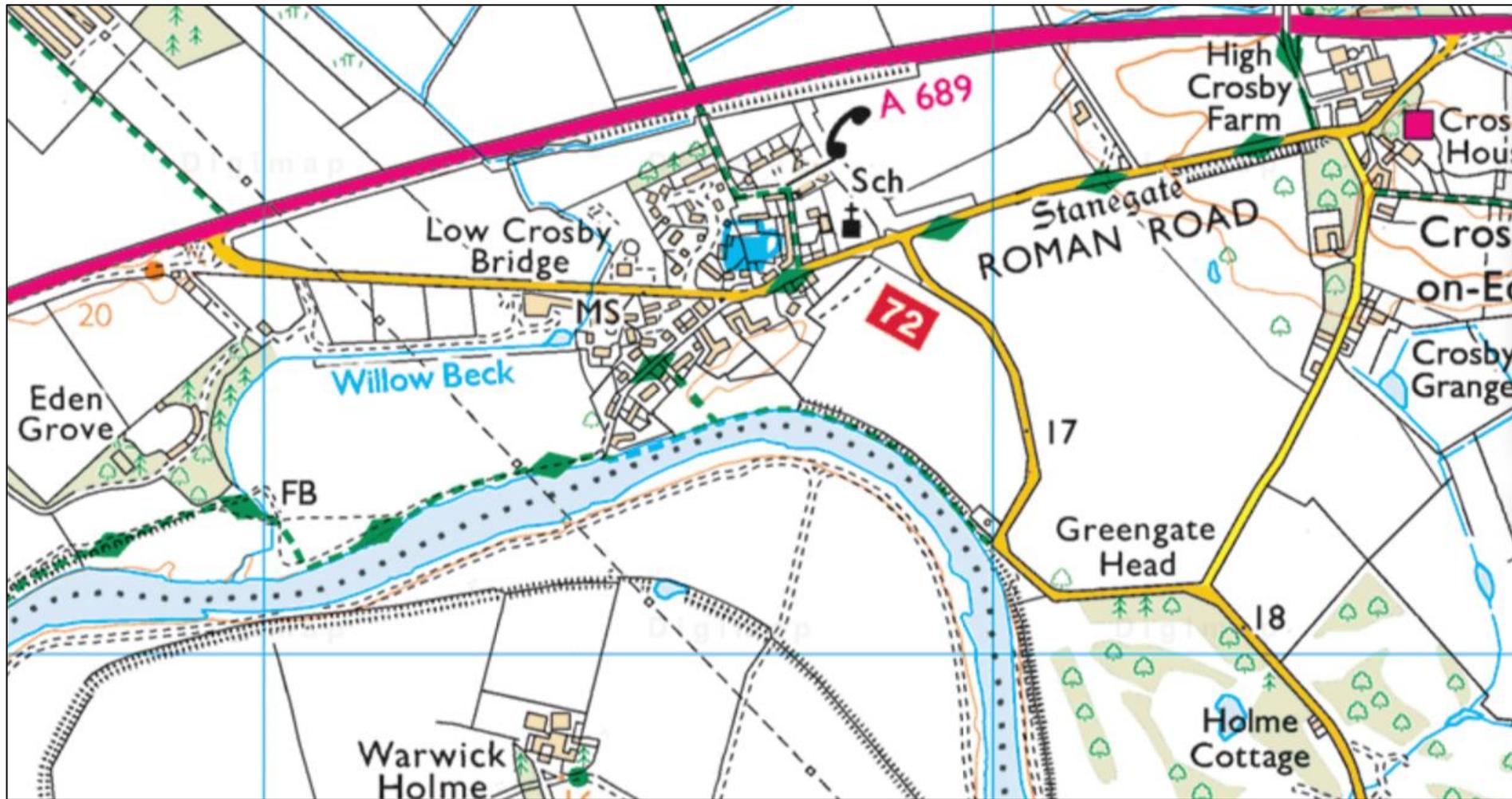


Map: [Digimap for Schools](#)

1 km

- Notice that the village is situated on flat ground on the north bank of a river meander.
- There is a small stream, Willow Beck, that drains land north of Low Crosby and discharges into the River Eden, west of Low Crosby.
- Willow Beck skirts the north and western sides of the village.
- Low Crosby is a residential village with no large commercial enterprises.

The Village of Low Crosby



Map: [Digimap for Schools](#)

1 km

Low Crosby - flood history



Source: Environment Agency

- There are 110 residential properties in Low Crosby.
- Low lying and situated on the banks of the River Eden, the village is prone to flooding.
- In recent decades, Low Crosby has suffered serious flooding in 1968, 1995, 2005 and 2009.
- In 2015, Storm Desmond caused severe flooding. Most recently, Storm Ciara caused flooding in 2020.

Recent flood events affecting Low Crosby

Flooding Event	Number of Properties Flooded	Peak Flow in River Eden at Sheepmount (m ³ /s) [†]	Peak Flow in River Eden at Warwick Bridge (m ³ /s)	Peak Flow in River Eden at Great Corby (m ³ /s)	Peak Flow in River Irthing at Greenholme (m ³ /s)
March 1968	Unknown	1200*	1104	-	189
February 1995	Unknown	950	812	-	26
January 2005	>60	1516	-	1373	205
November 2009	5	1029	-	816	198
December 2015	>58**	1680	-	1490	229

*based on an extrapolation, not directly from recorded data at this gauging station. **58 in Low Crosby and more nearby.

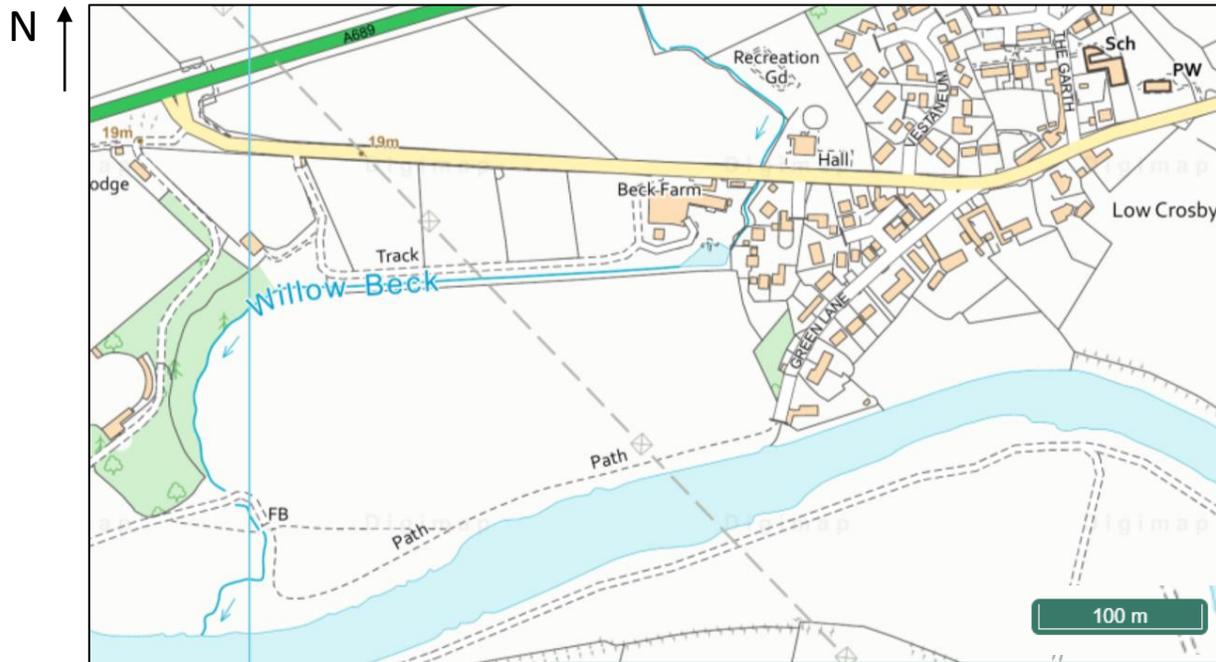
*2007 Viability Study by Jacobs

† Flows for past events taken from CEH National River Flow Archive <http://nrfa.ceh.ac.uk/data/search>

Source: [Cumbria County Council](#)

Why is Low Crosby prone to flooding?

There are three main reasons why Low Crosby is prone to flooding



1. The River Eden overtops its banks during periods of exceptionally high flow (due to high rainfall/snowmelt).
2. During high flow, water from the River Eden flows up the Willow Beck causing the village to flood.
3. Surface water flooding following an intense storm or period of heavy rain.

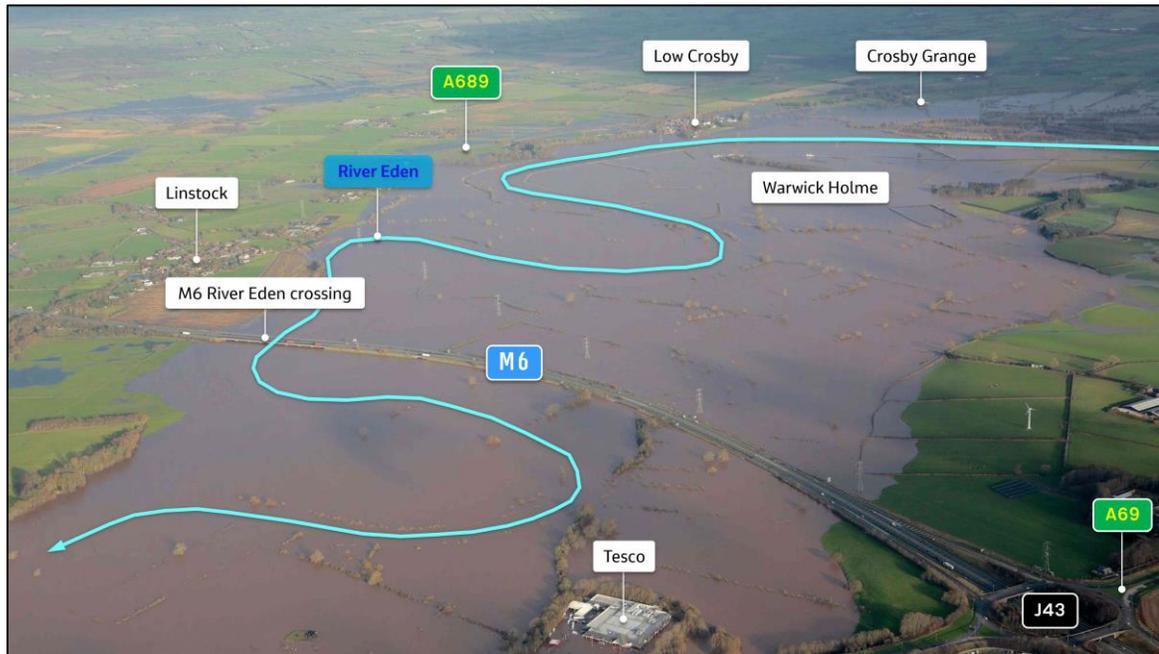
Defending Low Crosby



Source: Environment Agency

- Following the floods of 2005, a new defence scheme was constructed in 2009-11 to reduce flood risk.
- A 380m long earth embankment was constructed to the east of Low Crosby.
- This scheme included a sump chamber designed to accommodate a temporary pump. This is because the surface water drainage systems cannot discharge freely, so a pump is required.

What happened in 2015?



Source: Environment Agency

- In December 2015, much of the UK was affected by a major storm, named by the Met Office as Storm Desmond.
- The flood level on the River Eden was 0.6m higher than in 2005.
- The 2015 event was of significantly greater magnitude than past events and the flow in the River Eden was the highest recorded.