

Hambleton Flood Risk Management Scheme

Spring 2025

An update from the Environment Agency

Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of the Hambleton Flood Risk Management Scheme (FRMS) Newsletter.

Hambleton FRMS Overview:

A large part of the village is in flood zone 3 which is an area with the highest probability of flooding. The risk of tidal flooding in Hambleton is likely to increase in the future because of climate change.

The existing defences do not provide the level of flood protection that will be required in the future. Intervention is therefore required to ensure the longer-term safety of the community in Hambleton.

The new flood defences will better protect over 600 properties.

Linear flood walls are proposed from Kiln Lane, (north of Wardleys Pool), to the end of the existing embankment near Peg's Pool.

The embankment south of Regatta Point will be raised to combat climate change.

The Hambleton FRMS will provide a consistent standard of protection against a flood event with a 0.5% chance of occurring in any one year and accounts for climate change.

The project team are continuing work to ready the scheme for construction at the earliest opportunity, but it is not anticipated that there will be any construction work before Spring 2026. Once we enter the construction phase, the compensatory habitat on Rawcliffe Road will need to be completed first, before the main flood risk management scheme. This is a condition of the planning approval.

Further updates regarding the programme will be shared as and when they are available.

Notable Recent Dates

Conditional Planning Approval Granted – December 2024

Forthcoming Target Dates

Marine License Granted – Spring 2025*

Start Construction of Compensatory Habitat works – Spring 2026*

Start Construction of main scheme – Spring 2027*

*Dates are indicative and based on current programme

In the meantime, the project team remain available to the community and will continue to consult with our statutory and non-statutory consultees regarding the elements of the scheme that fall within their remit.

Scheme update

The planning application, covering all 5 zones, was awarded conditional planning approval by the Local Planning Authority (Wyre Council) on 4th December 2024. The Decision Notice can be viewed on Wyre's planning portal using reference number [23/00960/LMAJ](https://www.wyre.gov.uk/planning/23/00960/LMAJ).

In February, we shared with our mailing list that construction of the scheme will not be starting in Spring 2025 as previously planned. Rising costs on other flood risk management schemes nationally has led to the Government focussing spend on projects already in construction. We are hopeful that once these projects are concluded that Hambleton will be included in the next tranche of funding.

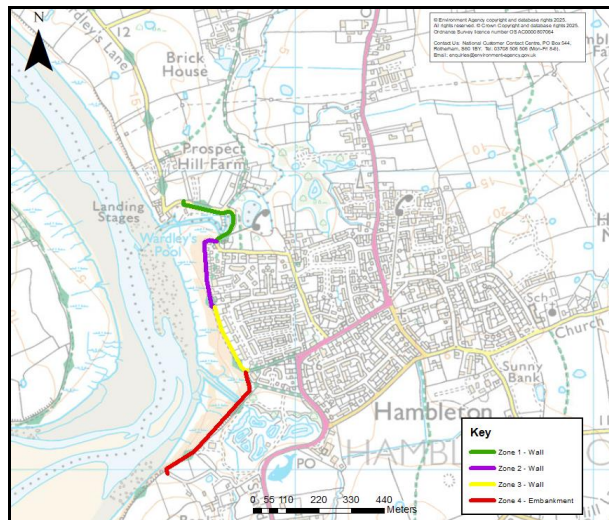


Figure 1 - Location of Proposed Flood Defences

A key component of our scheme is the delivery of a compensatory habitat site at Rawcliffe Road, approximately 3km upstream of the main flood risk management scheme.

The works alongside the tidal riverbank will have an impact on the existing saltmarsh communities. Through our consultation with Natural England we have committed to develop a compensatory habitat site which will provide in excess of 2 hectares of intertidal habitat.

The majority of the existing saltmarsh communities alongside the riverbank will recover once construction is complete, leaving a net gain in biodiverse habitat for the area. We will continue to work closely with Natural England to ensure that this habitat is delivered effectively.

An area of land has been purchased for the proposed compensatory habitat works. A new flood defence, set back from the river will be constructed and the existing informal defences will be breached. The site will inundate under tidal conditions which will enable new intertidal habitat to establish.

The conditional planning approval requires these works to be delivered prior to the main FRMS works. This requirement was expected and is reflected in our working programme and plans for the construction phase.

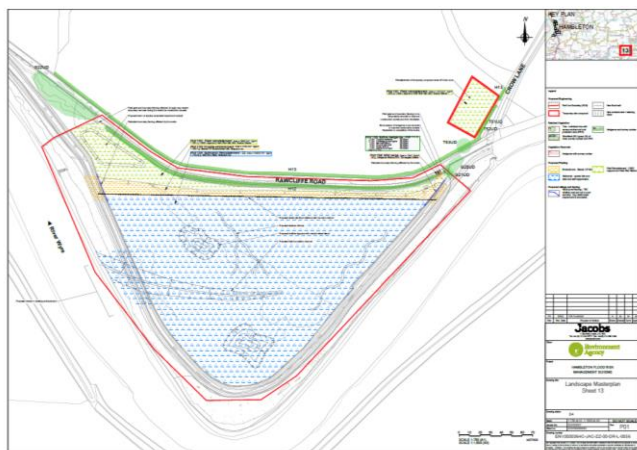


Figure 2 – Plan of Rawcliffe Road Habitat Creation Site (Zone 5)

Whilst preparing the scheme we have been working to enhance the local environment. Proactive tree planting has taken place on Saltmarsh Lane to compensate for vegetation loss that will arise from the construction works. Some

trees and hedgerows will need to be removed to enable construction of the scheme. Replacement planting will be undertaken at a minimum of a 5:1 ratio.



Figure 3 - View along Salt Marsh Lane, pre-construction mitigation hedgerow and tree planting

We continue to respond to individual enquiries and will continue to provide community-wide scheme updates via Newsletters, emails to the scheme mailing list and the Flood Hub page.

In the time since the last newsletter we have continued to respond to individual enquiries and meet regularly with stakeholders/ landowners to discuss concerns.

**Find out more information about the scheme
please visit the Hambleton Flood Hub**

<https://thefloodhub.co.uk/hambleton/> or scan



To be added or removed from the Hambleton
emailing list, or for any further information
relating to the flood defences, please contact:
CMBLNC-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk
or Call 03708 506 506 (Environment Agency
General Enquiries)

You can find more information about Flood Alerts and Warnings and register to receive them by searching for your location at:
<https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>
Floodline 0345 988 1188