



Wyre Flood Forum

Information for all Forum members;
June 2020 Forum cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Following the cancellation of the June 2020 Forum, the following is a round-up of works being carried out by the Risk Management Agencies (RMAs) on flooding issues within Wyre.

Environment Agency

- **Natural Flood Management in the River Wyre Catchment**

The Environment Agency are working with partners on this project which aims to achieve 'investment readiness' for Natural Flood Management in the upper Wyre. This is very much a 'conceptual' project, however, if successful, it could unlock significant funds to help deliver nature based flood protection and climate resilience to downstream communities. This project is working in partnership with United Utilities, Environment Agency, Flood Re, Co-op Insurance, Triodos Bank with funding from Defra and Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

The EA will aim to provide key updates via www.TheFloodHub.co.uk and through the Wyre Flood Forum updates but in the meantime you can find out more via the links below:-

The Natural Flood Management interventions video below helps to explain what intervention measures are and their benefits.

You can see details here:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8pmwGdeDkA>

You can also see an Environment Agency post here:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-projects-given-support-to-attract-private-sector-investment>

and the Rivers Trust news article here:-

<https://www.riverstrust.org/2020/06/01/investing-in-nature-wyre-catchment-nfm/>

- **Garstang Flood Basin**

Works have begun to replace the east gate at the Garstang Flood Basin following the failure of one of the hydraulic rams.

Lancashire County Council (Lead Local Flood Authority)

- LCC operatives will be starting works on Royles Brook watercourse on White Carr Lane and Norcross Road on Monday 2 June. These works will include the clearing and inspection of all culverts under the highway and access roads to ensure the free flow of water in the watercourse.
- LCC have undertaken an inspection of the watercourses in the Stanah area, including the surface water outfall at Ramper Pot. Works are planned to improve surface water drainage on Underbank Road.
- Other works that been undertaken include:
 - A588 Strickland Lane, Stalmine o/s Moor End Barn – diverted drain to remove blockage and known flood area on A588
 - Section 278 A588 Stricklands Lane, o/s Wainhomes development – reinstatement of damaged highway drain
 - A588 Carr Lane, Hambleton – o/s The Coppins – diversion of highway drain
 - A6 Bilsborrow o/s and opposite the Roebuck – survey and unblocking of highway carrier and riparian drainage system
 - Blackpool Rd, St Michaels o/s cottages – cleared outlet into the River Wyre
 - Churchtown Non Return Valve fitting adjacent to Kirkland Bridge
 - Stanah Rd – removed roots from 9" carrier drain at known flood area

Wyre Council

- Hambleton Drainage Issues:

Following the drainage survey in Hambleton, Wyre will be holding a video meeting with other RMA's on 30 June to discuss the issues and potential improvements to the local drainage systems to reduce the risk of flooding in the village.

United Utilities

UU have been undertaking surveys of their sewer assets in the Hambleton area to identify suitable locations for the installation of flow and level monitors. It is hoped that once installed these can help identify issues that would allow UU to resolve flooding issues or to provide advance warnings of potential flooding issues to Hambleton residents.

Wyre Rivers Trust

- White Carr Lane:

A permit has now been granted for the works to connect the new channel to Royles Brook watercourse; this work is expected to begin in the next 4-6 weeks.

The works will also include the creation of a floodplain wetland between the new channel and Amounderness Way, further increasing storage during peak flows. Wetland plants will be planted throughout the site in autumn. Monitoring equipment will be installed at the site prior to Autumn/Winter 20/21 to allow the effectiveness of the interventions to be assessed. The Trust are awaiting a quote for the works from the contractor that created the new channel.

- **Hillylaid Pool Wetland:**

The designs for the creation of wetland are 90% complete. The Trust are now submitting permit applications for the work on the Old Course, which is an ordinary watercourse. These works are principally the creation of wetlands, amphibian ponds and reptile hibernacula. In the interim period it is expected that the designs for the breach of the bund between the new course and the old course will be finalised, allowing the Trust to apply for an environmental permit from the Environment Agency. The breach will allow Hillylaid Pool to back up into the site during periods of high flow, generating around 6000m³ of storage.

- **King Georges Playing Fields:**

Concept designs are currently being finalised following comments from Wyre Council. When these are finalised they will be made available to community groups. Within the concept a number of actions are planned, these include remeandering a short section of Royles Brook, creating a number of wetland, creating additional bankside and marginal habitat and tree planting.

- **Wyre NFM:**

On farm Natural Flood Management (NFM) assessments are currently taking place; this will allow the Trust to identify NFM interventions on the remaining catchment area that drains into Smithy Beck. Once these are complete the Trust will price and procure works to be completed this autumn, and will also continue to monitor the works that have already been completed as part of the project.

- **Wyre NFM Investment Readiness:**

See EA update.

FLAGS

St.Michaels FLAG:

- The FLAG is continuing to press United Utilities for resolution of the Rawcliffe Road sewage overflow situation.
- Video calls with Wyre Borough Council officers concerning arrangements should flooding occur during lockdown. We shall circulate a letter/questionnaire seeking input from all residents about their needs for specialist help in an emergency and/or how they may be able to help.
- Jointly with Churchtown FLAG reviewing flood risks from applications to develop land adjoining Nateby Crossing Lane Nateby and Cross House Farm Garstang, both of which propose to discharge surface water into the Ainspool and then into the River Wyre.
- Taking part in discussions organised by the National Flood Forum on:-
 - Adoption of SuDS (sustainable urban draining systems which include attenuation facilities) by water companies
 - Liability to maintain banks and beds of watercourses (including ditches)
 - Effective investigation and commenting on planning applications
- Monitoring EA progress with the replacement of the defective hydraulic mechanism on one of the gates to the Garstang Flood Basin (now scheduled for 15 June) and seeking evidence of continued monitoring of the condition of the Catterall (St Michaels) Flood Basin.

- Maintenance of the banks of all the rivers in the Parish is of the utmost importance. We have, of necessity, had to postpone our planned inspection walks but these will take place as soon as government restrictions allow. Volunteers are welcome and in the meantime please be alert to any relevant issues you see during your daily exercise activities and provide Pamela Nickols (tel: 01995 679 400) with locations and ideally e-mail photographs of the problems.

Thornton FLAG:

- Officers from the MSfW Group have arranged to undertake a site inspection with the FLAG to look at flooding issues on Stanah Road, River Road and Underbank Road, Thornton. The visit is planned for 23 June.
- The FLAG has raised concerns from a local resident about the condition of culverts linking School Road with the ordinary watercourse to the west of the road and from the watercourse to Hillylaid Pool watercourse. The resident is concerned that these are heavily silted and require inspection.

Churchtown FLAG:

- Churchtown FLAG members met with LCC officers on May 29 to discuss a measure to mitigate flooding in Ainspool Lane which it is recognised is a recurrent serious problem. This measure was suggested by the FLAG following an in depth study of the drainage system and observations made during heavy rain in February 2020.
- It was agreed that on a trial basis LCC would modify the road drainage system by the installation of a non-return valve in a chamber where two large drains meet, the idea being to prevent a reverse flow of water into the Ainspool Lane drain from a distant source of field flooding. It is expected that this valve will be installed in the near future.

Preesall FLAG:

- The FLAG has reported that mud that was washed onto Cartgate during heavy rainfall on 16/17 June, has now been cleared. Concerns have been raised as to whether further mud slides could block the drainage system which brought flood relief to the residents of Sunnyside Terrace.
- The FLAG is arranging for the delivery of sandbags storage bins around Sunnyside Terrace; Wyre Council have agreed to install this as soon as they are received

Pilling FLAG:

- The FLAG has raised concerns about the flow of water within Broadfleet watercourse and the dredging of the Pilling outfall; they have requested reassurance that the outfall is clear and working. Officers from the Environment Agency to look into this and report back.
- The FLAG has requested that LCC (Highways) check the local highway drainage in the vicinity of Bodkin Hall. It is noted that the gullies have been recently cleared but concerns have been raised that water is not getting away. LCC to investigate.

Other updates:

- Bourne Road, Thornton:
NPL have confirmed that works to clear the watercourse to the north of Bourne Road have recommenced.

Outstanding works:

- Walk through of Preesall watercourses, including on Rosslyn Ave, Meadow Ave, and Pinewood Ave to be arranged with Preesall FLAG.
- Site visit to Lambs Hill development site to be arranged with Thornton FLAG.

Any other issues:

If anyone has any issues that require attention by any of the RMAs, please contact

Paul Long (Wyre Council) – paul.long@wyre.gov.uk or
Paul Bond (Environment Agency) – paul.bond@environment-agency.gov.uk

Next Flood Forum meeting:

The next Forum is scheduled for Thursday 10 September at 1pm

No arrangements have been confirmed at this time; whether or not the meeting will go ahead, either as planned or in a revised format, will be subject to Government guidance. An update will be provided closer to the date.

The Making Space for Water Technical Group met on 28 May via video link – a copy of the minutes is attached below for information.



Wyre Making Space for Water Meeting

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 28 May 2020
via Microsoft Teams.

Present:

Carl Green (CG)	Wyre Council (WC) – Chair
Paul Long (PL)	Wyre Council
Paul Bond (PB)	Environment Agency (EA)
Graeme Kelly (GK)	Environment Agency
Christine Hamilton (CH)	Environment Agency
Alistair Graham (AG)	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Mark O'Donnell (MD)	Lancashire County Council (Highways)
Tom Myerscough (TM)	Wyre Rivers Trust (WRT)

Apologies:

Nicola Beale	Environment Agency
Katie Duffy (KD)	United Utilities (UU)
Phil Wylie (PW)	United Utilities

1. Introductions:

CG welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies:

Apologies were noted as above.

3. Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of 27 February 2020 were agreed.

Matters arising:

Garstang Flood Basin

PB confirmed that the east gate on the Garstang Flood Basin is planned to be replaced from 15 June.

River Wyre embankment slippage, St.Michaels

GK reported that the EA had investigated the slippage/washout of the river embankment on Rawcliffe Road, St.Michaels and would be looking to reinstate the banking and damage to the wall section soon. He confirmed that the embankment is piled and is not in danger of collapse; the back face of the wash out has been sandbagged as a temporary repair and the EA will be looking to repair this as a priority.

MD added that LCC are looking at the collapsed highway drain in this vicinity, but further investigation is required. It is considered that the pipe runs through the embankment piling and would need to be fully investigated before any repair works are undertaken.

Action - GK, MD

Butlers Arms Farm, Churchtown

MD confirmed that the non-return valve on the end of the highway discharge pipe to the River Wyre by Butlers Arms Farm has now been installed.

Catterall Farm, St.Michaels

With no representatives from United Utilities in the meeting, no update was noted. PL to raise this direct with UU to get an update.

Action - PL

Primrose Bank Farm, Norcross

MD gave an update of the works – LCC to undertake cleaning of culverts on Norcross Lane and White Carr Lane in mid-June. MD is aware of a road closure to White Carr Lane planned by the EA which would improve access for maintaining Royles Brook watercourse and all culverts; he will try to coordinate his works to be done at the same time that the road is closed. GK will help coordinate works.

Action - GK, MD

Moss Side Lane, Great Eccleston

MD confirmed that he had not recently looked at this – he will undertake an investigation to see what, if any, action could be done here. CG stated that the most likely resolution would be to raise the road but this may be difficult.

Action - MD

White Bridge, A586, Great Eccleston

MD confirmed that LCC Bridge Team have inspected this some time ago but were generally happy with the integrity of it. He proposed that the bridge inspectors look at this issue again.

Action – MD

Blocked watercourse at Tyrer Bridge

GK confirmed that the tree on the Humblescough watercourse by Tyrer Bridge has been cleared.

Pegs Pool watercourse, Hambleton

PL noted that some works have recently been undertaken to clear the watercourse. GL replied that this section of the watercourse is not maintained by the EA and any works would have been done by riparian owner.

Stricklands Lane, Stalmine

MD confirmed that the developer has undertaken drainage works under section 278 to resolve the flooding issue at the entrance to the new development; this appears to have resolved the flooding issue. PL noted this but noted that the issue related to another problem at the junction with Moss Side Lane. MD agreed to look into this matter further.

Action - MD

4. Issues from Flood Forum and FLAGS

- PB noted that Thornton FLAG has raised a couple of issues; flooding to Stanah Road, and an old dam on Holts Farm where the farm drains into Horse Bridge Dyke watercourse.
- PB reported that Churchtown FLAG have requested a teleconference with Flood Management Authorities to consider planning issues in Garstang and surrounding areas that affect the Ainspool watercourse.
It was agreed that all RMAs would be happy to take part but concerns were raised that the issues related to planning and not all issues could be addressed. PB suggested that the FLAG provides an Agenda and questions ahead of the teleconference to ensure that the correct people are present to ensure that all issues could be fully addressed.
PL noted that planners and council officers consider surface water discharges and provided that this is undertaken there are few grounds to refuse development. PB acknowledged this adding that the FLAG are aware of this but wish to be assured that any water entering the Ainspool is properly managed and wouldn't increase the risk to flooding in Churchtown.
- MD reported that he had been in contact with Churchtown FLAG concerning flooding on the Ainspool. The FLAG wish to install a non-return valve on the highway drainage to prevent flooding in Churchtown. This would possibly result in flooding to the woodland north of the A586. He will be meeting with the FLAG the following day to discuss this and will advise the Group at a later date.

Action - MD

5. Issues and actions update:

The updated Issues & Actions list is attached as Appendix 1

6. New issues:

- TM informed the Group that there was a tree in the watercourse by Flints Caravan Park, Thornton. He suggested that the tree be cut up and used as part of the current wetland works on Hillylaid Pool. This was agreed by all present; TM to contact Wyre Countryside Rangers for assistance in accessing and removing the tree.

Action - TM

- CG reported that he had been contacted by a Stanah resident enquiring about the raising of the river embankment at Ramper Pot. The Lambs Hill site developer has a large quantity of spoil from the installation of the surface water discharge pipe and this could be used to raise the embankment. PB and CH confirmed that the EA has received a request for this and has asked for further details; a response is still awaited.

MD reported that LCC have inspected the flap valve at Ramper Pot and noted that it was stuck in the open position. LCC to see if this can be lubricated and closed.

Action – MD

MD also reported that LCC are planning drainage works in the area, including improving the drainage on Underbank Road in the near future. He reported that LCC have undertaken inspections of the highway drains on Stanah Road and found no defects; he noted that the private drains and watercourses into which the highway drainage discharged was in a “shocking” state and requested that notices are issued on owners to undertake these works. AG to look into this.

Action – AG

7. Any other business:

- PL noted that the Group has agreed with Thornton FLAG to a walk through inspection of the drainage system adjacent to Stanah Road and River Road, including Ramper Pot outfall. PL to arrange with FLAG.

Action - PL

- TM reported that the Rivers Trust has agreed with Peter Holt of Holts Farm, New Lane to produce a natural flood management report with a view to recommend to fencing off the watercourse to manage silt deposits into the watercourse and improve discharges into Hillylaid Pool and Horse Bridge Dyke.
- It was agreed that the meeting had generally been successful and further suggested that PL look to reinstate the Wyre Flood Forum along a similar basis to take place on Thursday 11 June.

Action - PL

- PL noted that part of the land on Preesall Hill, Cart Gate, Preesall is up for sale; he queried whether this would have any impact on the proposed works being investigated by the Rivers Trust. TM is aware of the sale but is still struggling to identify the ownership of the site. PL to request owner details from Land Registry.

Action - PL

MD confirmed that LCC have some funding to undertake a topographic survey of the site. This will be arranged once ownership have been established.

- PB reported that the EA and Rivers Trust have been undertaking the Wyre Investment Readiness Project, looking at how green infrastructure investment can be assessed in Wyre; a press release is expected to be released this coming Monday.
- TM discussed details of the proposed works for development of a wetland area at King George's Playing Fields, Thornton (see attached plan). He is looking to provide some flood storage and habitat by creating swales and changes to the existing watercourse. He is also proposing to attenuate surface water runoff from the sports centre, creating of wetland and planting of trees.
- MD asked if there was any update on the Hambleton drainage. PL confirmed that he had undertaken an inspection of the local drainage; he has produced a draft report on the investigation which he will distribute to the Group for information. The report will be completed and discussed at a later Forum meeting. MD suggested that representatives from the Group meet up to discuss this in the next week or two. PL to arrange.

Action - PL

- AG reported that he had been contacted by a Hambleton resident re clearing drains on Shard Lane and Bull Park Lane. PL noted that he was aware of this and had asked LCC to clear the highway drainage in this area. MD agreed to look into this further.

Action - MD

8. Next meeting:

27 August 2020, 10am start – Details to follow.



Local tree thinning/removal and excavation to create scrape / infiltration basin

Proposed rustic outfall

Proposed spur from UK storm water drain (to be discussed)

Existing straightened channel filled with arisings to level of proposed wetland

Gentle slope from existing grass area to proposed pond

Proposed riparian planting created by lowering ground adjacent to the stream

Existing woodland area retention / removal

Boardwalk over shale

Level lowered to create wetland area and open up the existing channel to allow sunlight to reach water, some trees on river bank may be retained as 'island'

Proposed spur from existing drain

Existing channel blocked with spoil

Proposed spur from existing sports pitch drainage

Existing path to be modified to create access across wetland. Layout of boardwalk to be agreed with WYRE Council

Termination of field drain

Proposed tree planting

Existing drain outfall retained

New location for bench 1

Proposed pond

Existing electrical spur to railway hut (approximate location)

Existing river channel converted to wetland backwater to attenuate and filter surface water drain. Existing trees to be retained wherever possible, and removed only by agreement of WYRE Council

Existing drains intercepted and new rustic outfalls made to marginal wetland

Tributary realigned at confluence

Ground lowered locally to create wetland at confluence

Pond/wetland to receive roofwater if practicable

Down-pipes connected to new collection manifold

Proposed stream channel (diverted)

Level of existing stream base raised to create pond behind

Existing stream channel widened to create attenuation pond in backwater

Fill pile 0.9m high with 1 in 4 grading to existing ground (containing approximately 2250m³)

Tree planting

Marginal planting on silt created by lowered bank

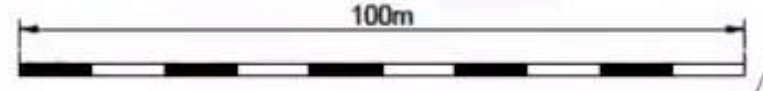
Wet woodland

Low lying wetland

Existing building to be removed by others

KEY

	Wetland		Existing woodland
	Proposed woodland		Existing Drain
	Proposed wet woodland		Proposed Drain
	Proposed pond/open water		



Wetland Engineering

Design Stage: CONCEPT DESIGN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEVELOPED DESIGN (RIBA 3) <input type="checkbox"/>	CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS <input type="checkbox"/>
Client: WYRE RIVERS TRUST	Project: KING GEORGE'S PLAYING FIELDS	
Location: THORNTON CLEVELLS, LANCAIRE	Detail: GENERAL ARRANGMENT	
Date: 18 MAY 2020	Project Number: WRT04	Drawing Number: WRT04-01
Scale: 1:500@A1	Prepared by: BG	Checked by: GS
© Copyright Wetland Engineering 5 Stoney Glen Tadworth West Yorkshire OX14 8DL Tel 01708 817822 www.wetlandengineering.co.uk	Notes: 1. This drawing is to be used in conjunction with all Engineers drawings and specifications. 2. The contractor is responsible for all dimensions within the contract bill of materials. 3. Any specific dimensions are to be used. Any dimensions are to be verified by the Engineer before proceeding. 4. All materials and workmanship to comply with the contract Bill of Materials and contract of trade.	