

Keeping you informed

Riverbank Stabilisation at Airmyn

February 2022

The Environment Agency has been progressing with plans to stabilise the riverbank in Airmyn to ensure the existing flood defences continue to offer flood protection into the future.

This newsletter provides you with key information and updates about this work.

Our proposed works

The works to stabilise the riverbank in Airmyn is currently forecast to start in the Spring/Summer 2022. The start on site date is subject to obtaining a marine licence for the works and the review period associated with this.

The works are forecast to take eight months, including establishing a compound and reinstating the area at the end of the works.

Working hours have been set as 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. Work will be planned around the tide times and will only be carried out in daylight hours.

Compound location

The work to stabilise the riverbank will be carried out by boat, but we will need to set up a compound in Airmyn village. The compound will consist of a temporary road, crane pad, storage area and welfare cabins for the delivery team. The compound will also include overnight temporary moorings for the boats which will be used to carry out the works.

The boats will be stationed on these temporary moorings overnight Monday to Friday, returning to Goole Docks at the

weekend. The boats will always be staffed when in the area. There will also be 24-hour security at this compound.

Access to the compound will only be during the agreed working hours, other than any personnel changeovers out of hours.

The planned compound area is shown by the red outline on the diagram below.



Recent and ongoing work

In November, we dug trial holes in the verge outside the planned compound location. This was to allow us to check the location and condition of any utilities and plan any temporary works.

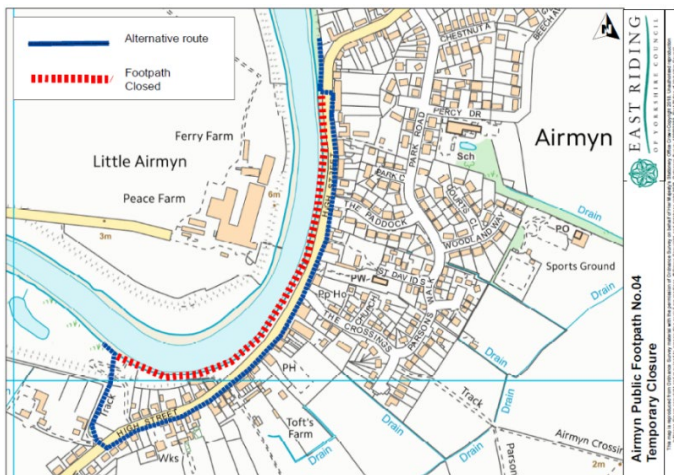
In the week commencing 7th February 2022, the Contractor who will be delivering the works on behalf of the Environment Agency will be taking water level measurements from the riverbank in Airmyn. They will have a welfare van set up in the compound location identified above.

Public Right of Way Diversion

In the interest of public safety, we need to divert Airmyn Footpath No. 4 for the duration of the works. This is the footpath that runs parallel to the River Aire, on top of the existing flood embankment.

Although we are carrying out most of the work from the river, the area is still a construction site and so this diversion is required to protect members of the public who use this footpath during the duration of the works.

The extent of the footpath closure and the proposed diversion are shown on the below map.



Land ownership

The Environment Agency will endeavour to contact all occupiers and landowners who may be affected by our work. To assist with this process and ensure you are kept up to date with our plans, please contact us if you own or occupy any land on the riverbank in Airmyn which you think may be affected by our works. You can contact us using the details provided at the bottom of this newsletter.

Before we start work, we will also install a formal written notice on the land which will provide further information of the proposed works.

Permitted Development

The Environment Agency applied for a Certificate of Lawfulness under the General Permitted Development Order which is part of the Town and Country Planning Order 2015.

In December 2021, the Environment Agency received a response from East Riding of Yorkshire Council confirming that this development is lawful and planning permission is therefore not required.

Environmental enhancements

Several assessments have been carried out to understand the habitats and species currently existing in the area where work will be carried out. Our Contractors will be working to an Environmental Action Plan during the works which will minimise the potential impacts of the project on the environment.

We have proposed environmental enhancements for the grassed area which runs along the river edge in Airmyn. This will complement and enhance the existing area and include meadow grassland along the riverbank, comprising of wildflower species suitable for wetland. The grassland will provide benefit to pollinating species in addition to creating a pleasant landscape.

Any vegetation removal as part of the works will be minimised and the trees located on the riverbank which are covered by Tree Preservations Orders will be retained.

As part of the project, signage will also be installed along the riverbank, including information boards and signs to warn of underwater hazards for water users.

Contact

If you require any further information, you can contact the Lower Aire Team by calling our general enquiries number 03708 506 506 or via emailing us at:

YORKS_LowerAire@environment-agency.gov.uk.