

Upton on Severn

Construction update

September 2011

This newsletter is to update you on the flood defence construction work on the New Street phase and outline the programme for constructing the Waterside flood defence.

During the construction of the flood defence along Waterside, there will unfortunately be short periods of time when we will not be able to put up part or all of the temporary flood defences along Waterside. We will tell you at least 24 hours before any flood whether all, part or none of the temporary flood defences will be put up. This newsletter explains how to receive this information and free flood warnings.

New Street construction programme

The Environment Agency's contractor has now returned to site to complete the New Street element of the Upton upon Severn Flood Alleviation Scheme.

New Street was re-closed on 13 September to allow the final works to be completed. This road closure is likely to continue until mid October 2011. A diversion is in place for the duration of the road closure. All businesses along New Street or accessed via New Street are open as usual.

The New Street flood gate is programmed to be installed on 21 September 2011. Once the flood gate is installed the brickwork will be finished. It is expected the brick work will be complete late September, after which the remaining section of flood bank will be completed. This will seal the raised defence. The final road and footpath construction works are programmed to be undertaken early October.

It is expected the permanent fencing will be fitted six weeks after the final brickwork is completed. In the mean time, temporary fencing will be provided public safety and security.

Waterside construction programme

We will start work on Waterside flood defence works during September. The work will be divided into several sections. We are aiming to work on more than one section at a time to improve efficiency and reduce the overall time on site.

These sections are from the Plough to the Kings Head, the Kings Head to The Swan Hotel, outside The Swan Hotel, The Swan Hotel to Bankside House, and the boundary wall between Bankside House and Crimond Rose.

We will begin in the section from the Plough to the Kings Head. We will put up fencing and prepare the site for construction from week beginning 19 September after which we will begin constructing the flood wall. We aim to finish this section by Christmas. During the work there will be pedestrian access only in this area.

We also hope to begin work concurrently in the section from The Swan Hotel to Bankside House on Dunn's Lane. We will maintain pedestrian access and we are hoping to maintain vehicular access. However the road will be closed for approximately two weeks when we install the flood gate later in the programme. **All businesses will be open as usual.**

To prepare for construction gas and telephone lines along Waterside are being diverted by National Grid and BT.

Our contractors will fence off an area between the Kings Head and Severn Leisure Cruises from week beginning 19 September. This is so they can carry out work in the construction areas efficiently and for public safety. There will be pedestrian access to businesses and properties. We are working closely with businesses affected by the construction programme to maintain deliveries where possible.

We will update you on our programme for constructing the flood wall in the other sections in our next newsletter.

We are building the Waterside phase between September 2011 and April 2012 to minimise disruption to tourists and Upton businesses during the summer festival period.

During the construction of the flood defence along Waterside, there will unfortunately be short periods of time when we will not be able to guarantee we can deploy the temporary flood defences along

Waterside. However we will make every effort to deploy all or part of them if we can.

Flood warnings

The Environment Agency will provide a free flood warning and confirm if the temporary barriers will be put up along all, part or non of the Waterfront.

When we have heavy rainfall and expect high river levels we will issue a Flood Alert. After this we will aim to confirm at least 24 hours before the River Severn comes out of its banks if all, part or non of the temporary flood barriers can be used and issue a flood warning.

We will provide this information

- Direct to you – by phone, text, email or fax if you register with us by calling our Floodline on 0845 988 1188 or Typetalk 0845 602 6340
- On our website – for up-to-date information www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood
- By calling Floodline on 0845 988 1188 – select option one, then give 05232331 quick dial code to listen to recorded information on the risk of flooding and use of the barriers at Upton along Waterside
- Environment Agency staff in Upton

If we are not able to use part or all of the temporary barriers unfortunately parts of Waterside will flood.

We will provide sandbags to local residents and staff to help you put them in doorways before the flood. You may also be able to stop water entering your home by putting plugs in sinks and baths or drains in your garden. Weigh these down with a sandbag or heavy object.

You may be asked to evacuate your home, please cooperate with the emergency services. You may want to stay with friends or family, or go to the council run Upton evacuation centre.

If you would like more information go to www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood or telephone 03708 506 506 (Mon-Fri, 8am - 6pm) for a copy of What to do before, during and after a flood, a practical advice on what to do to protect yourself and your property.

Next Update

The next update will be in early October 2011.

Getting additional information

The dedicated Environment Agency Site Liaison Officer is Charles Chandler. He is available to answer your questions during the construction. You can contact him on 07802 335133.

Information about this scheme is also available at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/upton

Your comments

We would like your views on this newsletter, to evaluate whether it is a good use of public money.

Do you find it useful and informative? Do you use our internet pages to find the updates you need? Would you like other information in our updates?

Please let us know what you think about our newsletter by calling the External Relations team on 08708 506506 and asking for Natasha Cuffley or e-mail us at midswest@environment-agency.gov.uk

Also contact us if you would you like to receive future newsletters via email.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0845 988 1188

www.environment-agency.gov.uk