

Upton Flood Alleviation Scheme

Update August 2010

This update is to keep you informed on the progress of the Upton Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Public exhibition 17 June 2010

An exhibition of the Upton flood alleviation scheme plans was held in Upton Memorial Hall and attended by approximately 230 people. Many varied comments and suggestions were made.

We've made some amendments to the scheme in response. This includes the decision to end the Waterside defence between Crimond Rose and Bankside House rather than continuing along to Severn House. How the flood defence will structurally tie in to the existing boundary wall will be decided once we have carried out ground investigation works and consulted with landowners and other statutory consultees through the Listed Building Consent process. One of the benefits of this amendment is that the large poplar tree and all the trees downstream of it will be retained.

Waterside

We submitted a planning application to Malvern Hills District Council on 16 July. This is expected to be determined by the Planning Committee in either September or October 2010.

Some of the flood defence wall will be built along the boundary of Common Land and highway. We submitted an application to construct on Common Land to the Planning Inspectorate on the 10 August. This was advertised in the Malvern Gazette on the 13 August.

The scheme proposal includes closing the road to vehicles around the Swan Hotel and changing the layout of the parking bays. To do this a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) has been submitted to Worcestershire County Council. You are able to comment on this during the formal consultation period so please look out for details on notices along Waterside in the coming month.

Landscaping and finishes for the scheme are being fully developed in the coming months working with Malvern Hills District Council, Upton Town Council, Upton in Bloom, English Heritage and our landscape consultants.

New Street

The planning application for the New Street defence has been approved.

Construction of the New Street defence is expected to start in November 2010. This is dependant on gaining all necessary consents and permissions for both New Street and Waterside elements. We are

planning to build both phases of the project at the same time or consecutively to ensure the best use of resources and budget.

We will also need to carry out pre-construction works to bury an electricity cable under the sports pitches. This is due to be carried out by Eon in September 2010. BT are also carrying out a survey to assess the need to divert one of their cables prior to construction starting.

The two sports pitches and the pavilion will remain open throughout the season and alternative facilities will be found if necessary. We have been working with the local sports clubs to set out the pitches.

A footpath diversion application will be submitted to move the line of a footpath near the proposed New Street flood gate.

Update on Ground Investigation Works

We are intending to carry out some further investigations using a modified method of working, in order to confirm the depth of pile foundations required along Waterside. There have also been surveys to the drainage in this area to check its condition. This has shown it to be in good condition in the areas we plan to work.

We are intending to commence early September 2010. However we are not proposing to undertake any further work between the Kings Head Public House and the Swan Hotel until investigations by the Worcester CC Highways Department have been concluded.

Contacts

The Town Council and Flood Forum have agreed to gather questions and comments on our behalf. Please contact Upton Town Council on 01684 592273, email uptontowncouncil@btconnect.com or alternatively Upton Flood Forum by emailing OLStocker@aol.com. We will answer questions in the next update where appropriate or directly.

For information on the existing road closure around the Swan Hotel please contact Worcestershire Hub: Worcestershire Hub Contact Centre on 01905 765765 (Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm) or email worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk

Our next update will be available in October.

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