

Keeping you informed

Riverbank Stabilisation at Airmyn

November 2022

This newsletter provides you with key information and updates about the ongoing riverbank stabilisation work in Airmyn.

Reason for the works

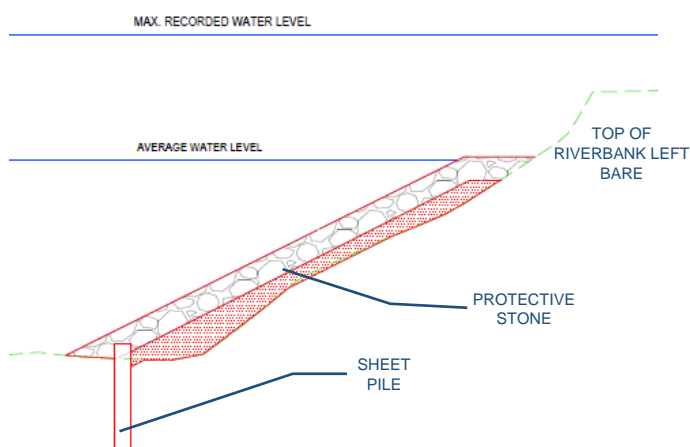
The Environment Agency has identified the need to stabilise and protect the bank of the River Aire in front of the existing flood defences in Airmyn.

The stabilisation work will help to maintain the current standard of flood risk protection offered by the defence into the future.

The works

The works to stabilise the foreshore in Airmyn consist of driving a sheet pile into the toe of the riverbank to prevent slips of the riverbank, followed by the placement of stone on the riverbank itself to prevent future erosion. The stone will not be placed to the top of the riverbank, leaving the top of the riverbank bare and maintaining the existing intertidal mud habitat and biodiversity.

The image below shows a typical cross section of the works.



The initial plan was to carry out stabilisation work within the five areas along the riverbank in front of the existing flood defence in Airmyn.

Piling works on the five areas commenced in the summer, however, monitoring surveys have since confirmed the need to carry out the same process within the 4 in-fill areas as well. So, the full length of river stabilisation work will now take place along the full river frontage, as indicated by the red area in the plan below:



Alongside the stabilisation work, signs have been installed on the riverbank, identifying that there are underwater obstructions.

The lead Contractor on the project is BAM Nuttall and they will be using specialist suppliers to support delivery of the works.

Programme of works and duration

The approvals have now been granted to complete all of the works for the full length of the scheme. The aim is to now complete the piling works this year and commence placing

stone next year. Reinstatement will then conclude the works and the project should be completed on site by late spring 2023, which is a delay to allow for the additional works.

Working hours will continue to be restricted from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. Work will be planned around the tide times and will only be carried out in daylight hours.

Methodology

Works will primarily be carried out by boat. This includes both the sheet piling and placement of protective stone. The original plan was to moor the boats in Airmyn during the week and return them to Goole Docks at the weekend. Boothferry Bridge, however, is undergoing essential repair works, so the plan now is to keep the boats moored in Airmyn and reduce the river journeys as much as possible to avoid delays and disturbance to the bridge works. The boats will continue to be staffed 24 hours a day, including when not in use.

The compound was established in Airmyn in the summer and consists of a temporary road, crane pad and storage area, as well as welfare cabins and an office for the delivery team.

The compound location is outlined in red on the below image. The compound will have 24-hour security and other than personnel changeover, access to the compound will only be during the agreed working hours.

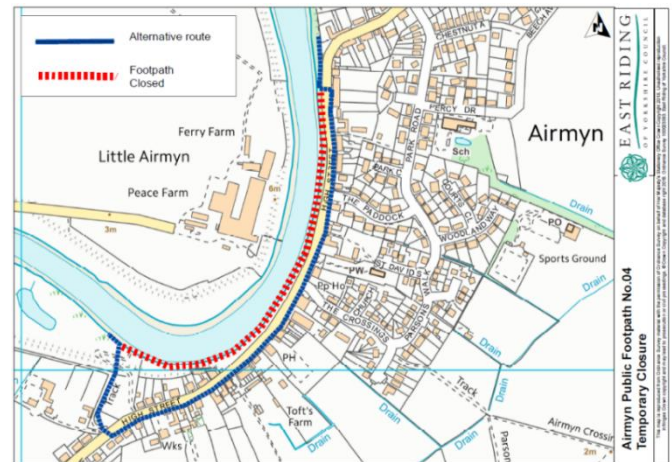


Impact during works

For the duration of the works the Public Right of Way (PRoW), which runs along the existing flood defence (Airmyn footpath no. 4), will be diverted. This is to ensure the safety of members of the public whilst work is being carried out.

The PRoW diversion will now need to extend to the end of the works next summer.

Access to the riverbank will continue to be restricted for the length of the closure. These restrictions will be in place for the duration of the works and includes those properties which have access directly to the riverbank. Details of the closure and diversion can be seen on the plan below:



Whilst most of the work will be carried out from the river, there will be some vehicle movements associated with the works. On occasion, this will include a mobile crane travelling to and from the site, to load materials onto the boats. There will also be some HGV deliveries, most significantly when the compound is being removed and reinstated next summer. This period will include a short time when traffic lights will be required to manage traffic flow along High Street.

Due to the nature of the works, there will be some noise and vibration from site activities but these will be measured and managed appropriately by the site team. A telephone number is available on the site signage, for anyone wishing to find out more or raise any concerns.

There will inevitably be some short-term visual impacts during the works. However, all areas will be reinstated afterwards.

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:

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