

Pickering - Slowing the flow

Flood Storage Option

June 2011

Update

As you know, we remain a committed partner of the Slowing the Flow project and have agreed with Ryedale District Council and the Slowing the Flow board members that:

1. We will reassess the current design proposal in an attempt to drive down costs;
2. We will examine all other options presented to reassess their viability;
3. We will work with partners to examine what could be achieved with the £1.3 million funding currently available;
4. We will continue to liaise with Defra regarding the Reservoir Act 1975 and it's associated guidance.

We have, over the past three weeks, met with a variety of partners to explain the current situation to them and to work together in trying to find a way forward for the people of Pickering.

A summary of the meetings are detailed below:-

Date	Who	Purpose
7/06/11	Ryedale District Council Mr Paul Cresswell and Mr Phil Long	To brief them, as a key partner, on the current situation.
13/6/11	Ryedale District Council Mr Paul Cresswell and Council Leader, Keith Knaggs, Councillor Linda Cowling	To explain how the Reservoir Act 1975 and the unique constraints of the site have impacted on the planned storage works in terms of cost.
15/06/11	Slowing the Flow Project Board The wider delivery Group including representatives from the community	To assure the Board that we remain a committed partner to the Slowing the Flow project and; To explain how the Reservoir Act 1975 and the unique constraints of the site have impacted on the planned storage works in terms of cost.
16/06/11	The Mayor of Pickering and Mr Brian Baker	To explain how the Reservoir Act 1975 and the unique constraints of the site have impacted on

		the planned storage works in terms of cost.
17/06/11	Ms Anne McIntosh MP	To explain the current situation and to provide the MP with detailed responses to particular questions.
20/06/11	Pickering Town Council	To brief residents and council members about the current situation.
27/06/11	Ryedale Land Drainage Liaison Group	To explain current situation and to seek their views on how we can move forward.

We also met with the Minister, Richard Benyon, Defra to provide a detailed briefing of the current situation with regard to a flood storage option for the residents of Pickering.

What are we currently doing?

We are now investigating whether it would be possible to reduce the cost of the proposal in any way. We are also reviewing all other previous options and checking whether another method of protecting Pickering is possible within the funds available.

These detailed investigations will take us a few weeks to complete and we will update you as soon as we are able. We will also be discussing with our partners how the available money could be best spent if an engineering solution cannot be found.

We will make sure that we keep you updated as to progress with regular briefing notes as agreed.

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