

## **Kirkley Stream Newsletter – Sept 2016**

### **Background**

This newsletter is to update you on the Partnership's progress since the distribution of the March newsletter and inform you of the timescales involved for further work to reduce the risk of flooding in your local area.

Thank you to all the residents that attended the Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Strategy public consultation events or submitted a response, to keep updated with this work please visit: [www.lowestoftfrmp.org.uk](http://www.lowestoftfrmp.org.uk)

Please refer to previous newsletters for background details to this matter. The Section 19 Flood Investigation and update reports can be viewed and downloaded from: [www.greensuffolk.org/SFRMP/FIR](http://www.greensuffolk.org/SFRMP/FIR)

This update covers the whole of the Kirkley Stream from Carlton Colville to its outfall into Lake Lothing at Kirkley Ham.

### **Completed and ongoing actions since March 2016**

Following the initial clearance of woody vegetation on the channel sides downstream of Bloodmoor roundabout in March, the channel was sprayed with herbicide. The aim of this work is to reduce the amount of vegetation growing on the channel bed, which has the tendency to be uprooted during times of high flow and can cause blockages.

Anglian Water continue to provide staff during high rainfall events to monitor flows and remove any material causing blockages. Our survey of the stream shows that there is very little fall along its length, only 1.4m drop in height over a distance of 1500m. This means that a restriction in flow anywhere along the stream will quickly lead to rising water as the channel is essentially flat. Therefore, when the Anglian Water staff are on site that need to assess the situation along the whole length of the stream so you may not see them in a specific location, but rest assured they will be there.

Just down-stream of the culvert that passes under Tom Crisp Way Anglian Water staff identified a length of channel where flows seemed to be restricted and completed works in August to widen the channel and remove further vegetation (see completed works over page).



### **Planned actions – September onwards**

The Partnership is continuing to refine the modelling of the stream. We have undertaken further surveys and testing of the model against known rainfall events. This is important as the outputs from the model, which test the effectiveness of our proposed improvements, will be used as evidence to determine the amount of funding we are able to draw down from central government. Although a large amount of funding has been ring-fenced for the wider Lowestoft Flood Risk Project, any capital works specific to the Kirkley Stream will have to meet national criteria to draw down the required funds. The Partnership will include proposals (a full list can be found on pages 11-13 within the consultation document: [www.lowestoftfrmp.org.uk/media/1050/consultation\\_lowestoft.pdf](http://www.lowestoftfrmp.org.uk/media/1050/consultation_lowestoft.pdf)) in a “Strategic Outline Case” that will be submitted in November 2016, we will know the outcome early in 2017. Our aim is to continue to undertake preparatory work while this decision is being considered to enable any approved schemes to be implemented at the earliest opportunity.

Annual maintenance of the channel will be funded locally and a long term plan for this work has been agreed between all partners. This will include a number of actions listed below with works commencing this autumn:

- Initial clearance of vegetation around flood storage area and highway attenuation ponds – Oct 2016
- Creation of new upstream inlet into flood storage area – Oct 2016
- Assessment of current silt levels in the flood storage area ponds, removal of any accumulated silt and vegetation to return to “as-built” condition – Autumn/Winter 2016/7
- Annual clearance of bankside vegetation (alternating banks each year) and the removal of in-channel vegetation downstream of Bloodmoor roundabout. Creation of access “path” alongside channel for ongoing maintenance
- Initial channel clearance adjacent to Meadow Park – Autumn 2016
- Removal of silt bars that are judged to restrict flows – as required
- Creation of Kirkley Stream [RiverCare](#) group, funded to work with the Partnership organisations to maintain the watercourse in good condition – 2017.

Anglian Water have also approved the design of new screens to be fitted in front of their culverts, these will be installed at the earliest opportunity. These screens will reduce the risk of material causing restricted flows and also create a safer environment for staff to clear any blockages that do occur.

### **Helpful contacts:**

**If you are concerned for your safety call the emergency services.**

**Anglian Water:** 03457 145 145 (24-hour, 7 days a week) -

**Suffolk County Council:** 0345 606 6067 (office hours)  
please report all flooding incidents or near misses via the online reporting tool: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/report-a-flood-in-suffolk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/report-a-flood-in-suffolk) or email [floods@suffolk.org.uk](mailto:floods@suffolk.org.uk) or call the number above.

**Waveney District Council:** 01502 527133 (emergencies); 01502 562111 (office hours)

**Safer Neighbourhoods Team:** 101 – please call if there is an incident during darkness and for safety reasons you require streetlights to be switched on.

**Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit:** 01502 523321 (office hours);  
contact via Waveney District Council in an emergency

**Environment Agency Flood Line:** 0345 988 188 (24-hour)

*Report prepared on behalf of the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Partnership - 12/09/2016*

### **Timeline - Actions Taken to date:**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Date</b>
Initial clearance of blockages and some in-channel vegetation – Bloodmoor roundabout to Kirkley Run.	Anglian Water	July 2015
Blockages cleared to flood storage area (behind Long Road) and access points to Stream - Bloodmoor roundabout to Kirkley Run.	SCC	Aug 2015
Highway gulley clearance and jetting of culverts – Carlton Colville and Velda/Aldwyk.	SCC	Aug 2015
Completion of Section 19 Report.	SCC	Nov 2015
Channel clearance and re-profile of main river – Carlton Colville.	Environment Agency	Nov 2015
Drainage investigation - Carlton Colville.	Anglian Water/SCC	Nov 2015
Topographical survey of Stream.	SCC	Feb 2016
Clearance of all bankside vegetation and woody growth along the channel from Bloodmoor roundabout to the Flood storage area (behind Long Road).	SCC/Environment Agency/AW	Feb/Mar 2016
In-channel vegetation sprayed off - Bloodmoor roundabout to Kirkley Run.	SCC/Environment Agency/AW	Jul 2016
Clearance of bankside and channel – east of Tom Crisp Way.	AW	Jul/Aug 2016

### **Ongoing Actions**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Date</b>
Provide operational cover during heavy rainfall to ensure culverts are kept blockage free.	Anglian Water	Ongoing
Modelling of the Stream in order to determine long term options and draw down government funding.	SCC/Environment Agency/AW/WDC	Results due Oct 2016
Long term maintenance programme being finalised.	SCC/Environment Agency/AW/WDC	Implementation Oct 2016 onwards
Install of improved grates, designed to reduce blockage on culverts	Anglian Water	tbc
Undertake clearance of annual vegetation growth along the channel – alternate banks each year.	SCC/Anglian Water	Part of annual maintenance programme
Clearance of vegetation around the flood storage area and the highway attenuation ponds.	SCC	Oct 2016
Assessment and removal of any accumulated silt within the flood storage area and highway attenuation ponds to return them to “as built” condition.	SCC	Starting Autumn / Winter 2016, completion dependant on survey
Vegetation clearance of channel and banks alongside open space on Lowestoft Road.	WDC/EA	Autumn 2016
Assessment of silt bars associated with culverts and removal as required.	SCC/AW	As required
Examining opportunities to bring forward government funding to deliver capital improvements at the earliest opportunity.	SCC/Environment Agency/AW/WDC	Ongoing
Development of long term flood risk reduction measures as part of Lowestoft Flood Risk Management Project.	SCC/Environment Agency/AW/WDC	Strategic Outline Case to be submitted in Nov. 2016
Implementation of large scale capital measures approved for funding.	SCC/Environment Agency/AW/WDC	Funding available in 2017
Creation of RiverCare Group.	AW/AW/WDC	2017