

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

14 APRIL 2015

BRECHIN FLOOD PREVENTION SCHEME – UPDATE

1. CURRENT POSITION

- 1.1 As previously reported in Report No. 460/14, Schedule 1 - Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme - Update, the construction contract with Morrison Construction Ltd commenced in December 2014 with a substantive start of the works in January 2015. Contract completion is due in March 2016.
- 1.2 The Head of Technical and Property Services and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services are continuing to progress compensation payments for affected land owners and to acquire the required land through agreement on such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate (reference Report No. 34/15).
- 1.3 A communication hub building has been opened next to the leisure centre at The Inch. A Newsletter has been distributed to the local residents and posted on the Brechin Flood webpage. The Newsletter provides details of progress so far with the construction of the works including the archaeological survey, community benefits, recycling initiative and the opening hours of the communication hub. A copy of the Newsletter is attached for information.
- 1.4 A meeting with Dr Aileen McLeod, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform is proposed to take place on 20 April.

Contact for further information:

Ian Cochrane, Head of Technical and Property Services

Email: CommunitiesBusinessSupport@angus.gov.uk.

Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme



Issue 1— March 2015

Background Information

Since 2002, Angus Council has been developing a Scheme to protect the residents of Brechin from flooding. In 2010 Angus Council submitted a Scheme to Scottish Government for confirmation. In 2012 Angus Council received confirmation and applied for grant funding for the Scheme. In 2014 Angus Council awarded the construction contract to Morrison Construction, with works commencing onsite in December 2014. The proposed works are due to be completed by March 2016. At present Angus Council is hopeful the works will be complete ahead of schedule.



Current Road Closures

- River Street - Jan 2015 to Dec 2015 *
- Witchden Road— Jan 2015 to Sept 2015

**possible partial access to properties at western end of River Street from Sept 2015 onwards.*

Part of River Street will be open on Saturday 17th October 2015 for the Cart Race.

Proposed Road Closures

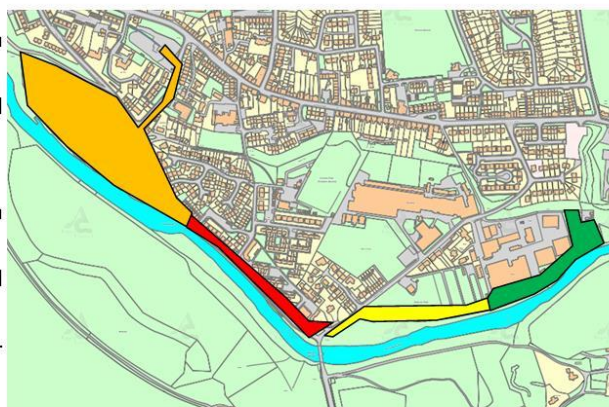
During the Summer 2015 School Holidays (July –mid Aug 2015) work to upgrade the traffic signals on Brechin Bridge will be undertaken.

Zones of Work

The Scheme works have been divided into four zones;

- Zone 1— The Inch and Witchden Road (Orange)
- Zone 2—River Street (Red)
- Zone 3—East Mill Caravan Park (Yellow)
- Zone 4—East Mill Industrial Estate (Green)

Work is being undertaken simultaneously in multiple zones.



Progress So Far

Work on the Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme commenced onsite on the 1st December 2014, with the site offices set up behind the Leisure Centre at the Inch. Work started by stripping the ground in preparation for the main construction work. All the zones have been securely fenced off to allow construction work to commence.

The proposed flood protection scheme works can be divided into two parts:

- **Direct flood defences**—walls and embankments to stop the River South Esk over-topping its banks
- **Upgrades to secondary drainage**—enhance surface water drainage and stop flood ponding on the landward side of the direct defences

In January 2015 Witchden Road and River Street were closed to vehicles, in February the carriageway of both roads was planed out in preparation for drainage works.

Beneath the proposed walls and embankments, a sheet pile seepage barrier will be installed. At present a piling rig is onsite installing the sheet piles. This activity is due to be complete by mid April 2015.

Survey work of the Denburn Culvert has been undertaken in River Street and Witchden Road.

Zone 1

The external concrete structure of the Inch pumping station has been completed and drainage work is ongoing. Work is currently taking place on the new wall in

the rear gardens of some houses in River Street.

Zone 2

A temporary flood barrier has been installed on River Street to protect residents from flood events that may occur during the construction period.

Work has commenced on installing new drainage in River Street, with work due to start on upgrading the Denburn Culvert in the very near future.

Zones 3 & 4

Ground preparation is ongoing in Zones 3 & 4, with some buildings in East Mill industrial estate demolished to allow the new flood embankment to be built. Excavation for the East Mill pumping station is ongoing.

Archaeological Interest

To ensure compliance with a Planning Condition an Archaeological Watching Brief has been undertaken for excavations in Zones 1 & 3. AOC Archaeology are providing Angus Council with professional Archaeological advice and support. Of particular interest in Zone 1 was the Old Bleaching

Greens and Paperies (Parer Mills) which date back to the early 19th Century.

Historically the Inch was an island with a lade running through the area (parallel to the buildings on the south side of the car park at the Leisure Centre). All historical points of interest have been surveyed and recorded by

Archaeologists and back filled to allow construction work to continue. Once Angus Council

receives the final report from AOC Archaeology, a copy will be passed to Brechin Historical Society for their interest and sharing with the community.

Community Benefits

Angus Council is pioneering a community benefits plan as part of the Scheme; the aim of this plan is to bring wider community benefits to the local community, beyond the construction work.

As part of the community benefits Morrison Construction is attending a number of events at schools in Brechin, promoting engineering and Health & Safety to local children.

Angus Council and Morrison Construction are working together with the Institution of Civil Engineers to arrange for a hands-on engineering challenge to be set up for students at local Brechin schools to attend.

A local artist has been commissioned to design five mosaic panels which will be installed on the new flood wall in River Street. The mosaic panels are being de-

signed with input from students at schools in Brechin and the local community. Once the designs are confirmed, local schools and the community will have the opportunity to assist in creating the mosaics.

Angus Council is working in partnership with the Ranger Service to install a number of Bird, Owl and Bat boxes in the Brechin area. Local schools will have the opportunity to participate in constructing the boxes and learn about the natural environment and local ecology.

As part of the Scheme design, a new play park at the Inch will be installed, which will represent a substantial enhancement to the old park play.



Old road exposed in Zone 1 from the Bleaching Greens / Paperies



Planing out of Witchden Road, in preparation for the drainage work. Road Planes were re-used in Zones 3 & 4

Recycling

Where possible Angus Council has instructed Morrison Construction to recycle and re-use material. The material planed out of the carriageways in River Street and Witchden Road has been re-used in Zones 3 & 4. Stonework removed from Zone 1 has been set aside for re-use. Where required new stone will be brought in from local suppliers to provide the best match.



Brechin Flood Prevention Scheme Contact Information

Email:
Brechinflood@angus.gov.uk

Access Line: 08452 777 778

Communication Hub (see below)

Angus Council wishes to thank all the residents for their patience during this period and apologies for any inconvenience caused as a result of the flood scheme works. We are working hard to complete the work as quickly as possible in order to reduce the disruption caused to local residents and we thank you for your cooperation during this time.

If you feel there is an outstanding issue which Angus Council could address please email Brechinflood@angus.gov.uk.

Communication Hub

Angus Council is pleased to announce a Communication Hub for the flood prevention scheme will be open from **Monday 23rd March 2015**. The Communication Hub will be a primary point of contact for members of the public to raise any concerns or issues they may have with the Project Engineer—Richard Meeson. Please feel free to drop by and have a chat.

The Communication Hub will be open:
Monday 10:00—12:00
Wednesday 14:00—16:00
Friday 10:00—12:00

The communication Hub is located next to the entrance to the Brechin Leisure Centre at Meikle Mill, see red star on the plan below.

