

Rising Brook Rugeley Flood Risk Management Scheme

Progress Update

This is an update on progress of the Rising Brook Rugeley Flood Risk Management Scheme.

Background

We have constructed a flood storage area in Partnership with Cannock Chase District Council and Staffordshire County Council and Stoke-on-Trent Local Enterprise Partnership. The scheme protects about 270 properties from flooding and enables the redevelopment of Rugeley town centre.

Recent Progress

We have been dealing with post construction defects on site, this is normal for a large construction scheme. Temporary fencing is currently in place to keep people out of the site and we are looking at options to strengthen this as vandalism has already been experienced. This has been low level and no issues have been reported to us that delay our forthcoming reseeding works. However as the clocks have now gone forward and the weather improves vandalism could increase. We will be monitoring it.

We have made good the skate park which included patching up some areas of tarmac which were damaged before the scheme. There are some outstanding issues with the skate park apparatus and we are in discussions with Cannock Chase District **Council** about these.

We have removed the palisade fence on the heritage trail that currently blocks access along the path. The bridge railings will be powder coated black soon, unfortunately this was overlooked when the bridge was constructed by the Contractor.

The access from Western Springs Road has been reinstated to its pre project state. Beech trees will be planted soon to fill the gap in the photo. Other trees will be planted soon on site as part of landscape works.

Next tasks

The next task is to flatten some soil near to the embankment. This will start 23/04/2018. Following that we will start preparation work so we can re-seed the field. Seeding will be complete in May, weather depending.

Removal of paths and steps.

The reservoir engineer has proposed that we remove the steps from the embankment to the skate park as these may affect its structural integrity. We also propose to remove some pathway from the original design as Staffordshire County Council, the landowner do not want the additional maintenance liability. This is currently being dealt with by the planning system.

Re-opening of Playing fields, Heritage Trail and Skate Park

We aim to open the playing fields later in 2018 when the grass grows back and Staffordshire County Council agree that is in an acceptable condition to be handed over. Again the growing conditions will influence exactly when it can be handed over. As the weather so far this year has not been favourable for sowing seed we are behind schedule but handover this year is still achievable.



Prepared by: Will Groves Senior Flood Risk Adviser West Midlands Area

April 2018

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0345 988 1188
0845 988 1188

www.gov.uk/environment-agency