

NETTLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL BECK AND FLOOD RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP.

Nettleham Beck Management Plan – review 11.09.2024

Introduction and Disclaimer

This Management plan has three core purposes, reducing the risk of Nettleham Beck overtopping within the Village, improving biodiversity and the amenity value of the Beck throughout the Parish. It is important to note, Nettleham Parish Council (NPC) is **NOT** the agency responsible for flood risk management. Work carried out by NPC in managing flood risks is not a legally binding obligation upon it, but is carried out in the interests of benefitting the community and as a means to provide responsible agencies with the benefit of local experience and expertise. NPC undertakes not to support any work if there is a risk it may increase flood risk.

The Beck & Flood Resilience Working Group (B&FR WG) is a grouping of Councillors and Volunteers which is committed to furthering the 'key aims' of the Beck Management Plan by supplying support, information and advice to NPC, whilst where permissible engaging with third parties to further its aims.

Key Aims

1. NPC is not legally responsible for flood risk management but insofar as it is reasonably practicable for NPC to do so, it will seek to alleviate the risks of the Beck flooding residential and business premises. In the main this will be achieved by carrying out 'routine duties' whilst striving to communicate and work with Responsible Agencies and Riparian Owners to bring about tangible improvements to infrastructure that will reduce flood risk. Insofar as is reasonably practicable NPC will also use its limited influence to reduce and stop the discharge of sewerage into the Beck
2. To protect and improve the native flora and fauna of the beck and its banks whilst improving biodiversity.
3. To maintain the Beck as a pleasant amenity.
4. To interact with residents to increase their awareness, understanding, and participation.

The priority of each aim is in the order listed. It is recognised that the powers, duties and resources of the Parish Council are limited: to meet the key aims will require the willing participation of third parties, most notably, riparian owners and statutory and responsible authorities.

Routine Duties

NPC Management has primary responsibility for the completion of routine duties in the Beck. This includes;

1. All the routine duties as resolved by NPC Property Committee or Full Council
2. Those duties referenced on the existing Facilities Team Schedule.

The role may be supported by volunteers, but it needs to be recognised that these may not always be available. NPC recognise it is important that its Management has the resources to organise this work and to ensure this work is completed on time.

Routine duties are;

1. Checking the Beck, weirs and culverts (Washdyke Lane, Church St, Vicarage Lane and Brookfield), including flow checks, clearing debris, excess vegetation and blockages. During adverse weather more frequent checks are desirable.
2. Where NPC is responsible, maintaining the Beck banks to the agreed timetable
3. Vegetation growth at Washdyke Lane, Church St, Vicarage Lane and Brookfield culverts will be monitored and not allowed to become established within 2 metres either upstream or downstream (as previously approved by the Property Committee).
4. Maintaining up to date records of checks and actions.
5. Where practicable, making sandbags available during periods of foreseeable high risk.
6. Oversight of Berm condition, (to be maintained by volunteers wherever possible).

Description: Beck sections applicable

For ease, the Beck has been divided into sections. Please Note: Left and right banks are when facing downstream. NPC staff have no legal access to many sections of the Beck, however the B&FR WG will make it best efforts to liaise with riparian owners to facilitate routine inspections and carry out maintenance where these advance its 'key aims.

1. This is the most upstream section: 'S' Bends to Washdyke Lane (Length B1 on attached plan NPC/01). NPC has no statutory responsibility for this section but is of interest to the B&FR WG as it can impact sections further downstream.
2. Washdyke Lane to Police HQ boundary/1 Kingsway (Length B2 on attached plan NPC/01), the culverts, weir and beck (including RH bank) are included in routine duties.
3. Police HQ boundary/ 1 Kingsway to Watermill Bridge (Length B3 on plan NPC/01). As with '1' this section, including the condition and operation of the 'Police Lake' is of interest to the B&FR WG but NPC has no statutory responsibility.
4. Watermill Bridge to Vicarage Lane (Length B4 on attached plan NPC/01). This section includes 2 sets of culverts and, 3 weirs and berms as well as the beck bed and some sections of bank which fall under routine duties.
- 5, Vicarage Lane to The Steepers (Length B5 on attached plan NPC/01). This section includes 1 set of culverts, a sections of Bank on Riverdale and to the boundary of the Village Hall which fall under routine duties.
- 6, The Steepers to Parish East Boundary (Length B6 on attached plan NPC/01). As with '1' this section is of interest to the B&FR WG but NPC has no statutory responsibility.

Beck Plan NPC/01

KEY:

- B1 'S' Bends - Washdyke Lane
- B2 Washdyke Lane - 1 Kingsway/Police HQ Boundary
- B3 1 Kingsway/Police HQ Boundary - Watermill Lane
- B4 Watermill Bridge - Vicarage Lane
- B5 Vicarage Lane - The Steepers
(inc. Riverdale Right Bank & Village Hall Left Bank)
- B6 The Steepers - Parish East Boundary



Note: Left and right banks are when facing downstream

PART D: Documentation

Establish and build a secure library of key documents easily accessible to NPC;

1. Private landowners/Riparian owners - correspondence
2. Lincolnshire County Council and its Agents, Witham Drainage (IDB)
3. Environment Agency
4. Historical documents including maps and photos pertaining to the Beck that may be of future vital importance
5. Hydraulic modelling studies – with the permission of the Author.
6. Investigations into previous flood events including recommendations
7. Permissions received by NPC from the responsible Agencies for Weirs, Berms and any other work

To be reviewed by as required.