

NEWTON STEWART FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME Community Newsletter (Issue 2 – July 2017)

Welcome to our second newsletter which provides an update on the Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme and relocation of the Sparling Bridge.

Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme

Dumfries and Galloway Council are committed to provide a Flood Protection Scheme as highlighted in the Solway Local Flood Risk Management Plan (LFRMP) which is available to view online at;

<http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15215/Flood-risk-management-plan>

Sweco (consultants in construction, architecture and environmental engineering) have now been appointed to deliver the Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme. The main aim of the Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme is to develop a sustainable flood protection scheme for Newton Stewart that will be able to attract grant aid from Scottish Government. The Scheme will be based on the work undertaken by Kaya Consulting Ltd to date and shall be developed to a stage suitable for submission to Scottish Government.

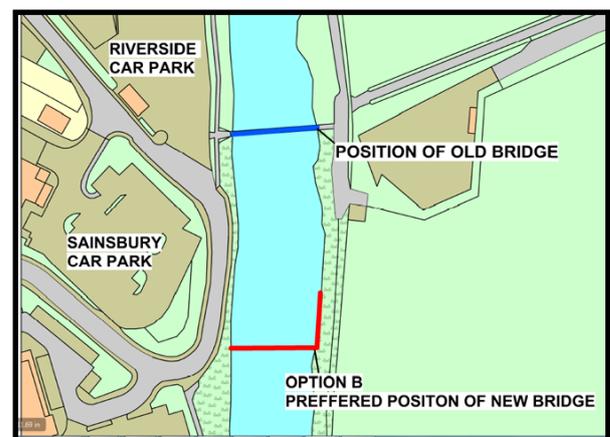
The programme is for the promotion of a flood protection scheme in accordance with Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and associated 2017 Regulations.

A key part of the programme is community engagement and this will include meetings with the Cree Valley Community Council, Cree Valley Flood Action Group and other key stakeholders. There will also be public consultation and exhibition events as the scheme progresses.

Sparling Bridge

Since the bridge was removed in November 2016, a structural inspection has been carried out. The bridge is in good condition with only a few minor repairs required. It is therefore the intention to re-use the existing bridge.

Cree Valley Community Council carried out a public consultation in March 2017 to allow the public to vote on their preference between two options. Option A was to reinstall the bridge at the existing location, but to raise the deck by 1.2m to ensure the bridge deck was above the predicted 1 in 200 year flood event, and to construct associated ramps at either side of the river. Option B was to install the bridge at a new location, 100m downstream (south) of the existing location, where the bridge would be above the predicted 1 in 200 year flood event, but only one ramp would be required, on the east side of the river. Following the consultation exercise, the public's preferred option was identified as Option B.



Proposed location of Sparling Footbridge

A ground investigation survey was recently carried out at the proposed new location by a specialist contractor and the results will be used to refine the design of the new foundations.

A programme for the Sparling Bridge has been divided into two contracts, one for foundations and one for steelwork. As it stands completion of the foundation works is the end of September, and installation of the bridge and associated works by the middle of November.

This may be subject to change due to ground conditions, and other matters such as land entry, permissions, etc. have been agreed.

Riverside Wall

Works on the Riverside Wall are now completed.



Consultation and Engagement

The Council and Sweco will continue to engage with the Community Council and Flood Action Group with the aim of;

- Updating the community on the proposals for the flood defences
- Outline on any forthcoming construction programme for the flood defences or the Sparling Bridge
- to answer questions and collect information on any issues

New Flood Warning

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency launched a new flood warning scheme for the River Cree in Newton Stewart on 30 March 2017. The scheme is based on real-time flood forecasting models and will provide advance warning when flooding is predicted to 600 homes and businesses at risk of flooding. People can sign up to receive free notifications of flood warning messages direct to their choice of mobile or landline numbers at; www.sepa.org.uk/floodingsignup or by calling 0345 988 1188.

Self Help

Everyone has a responsibility for protecting themselves and property from flooding. Dumfries and Galloway Council has a Flood Product Subsidy Scheme in place, for further information visit the following webpage; <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/flooding>

How Will We Keep You Informed?

Updates on progress of the scheme will be provided via newsletter which will be published on the Council's website and local notice boards.

The Council are also working with Sweco to provide a dedicated Facebook page on the scheme to provide information and regular updates.

If you have any comments or questions about the scheme or would like to discuss in more detail please contact us via the dedicated email address below.

CONTACT DETAILS

Dumfries and Galloway Council Flood Risk Management Team

☎ 01387 260303 www.dumgal.gov.uk/flooding ✉ pe.flooding@dumgal.gov.uk

Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

☎ 0345 988 1188 (Floodline) www.sepa.org.uk