

Boston Barrier Newsletter

July 2015

This newsletter is to update you about progress with the Boston Barrier tidal flood defence project. The barrier is part of a phased approach to reduce the risk of tidal flooding to 20,000 properties in Boston over the next 100 years.

Boston Barrier Community Hub to open Wednesday 5 August, 10am-4pm

The Boston Barrier will take another important step forwards with the opening of the Boston Barrier Community Hub (pictured on the right) on 5 August. Residents can visit the hub to find out the latest information about the tidal barrier, see information on other Environment Agency projects in the area and meet with the Boston Barrier team.

The community hub, located on Marsh Lane in the Riverside Industrial Estate, will open on 5 August between 10am and 4pm. To begin with, we plan to open the community hub every Wednesday 10am-4pm – although it may open more at key periods as the project progresses. The community hub will be opened by the Deputy Mayor of Boston.



Flood risk experts visit the proposed barrier site

National flood experts from the Environment Agency visited Boston on 6 and 7 July to find out more about the Boston Barrier project and visit the proposed site. The visit served as a briefing session for directors as the project approaches a key period. The tidal flood defence, the third largest scheme on the Environment Agency's list of current projects, will submit the full Transport and Works Act Order application to the Secretary of State for Transport in early 2016.

Early engagement with construction specialists about building the barrier

We are working on the tender documents to send to suppliers interested in bidding for the main construction of the Boston Barrier. We have also sent information and a questionnaire about the scheme to potential contractors to generate interest and get feedback on proposals. We want to get a supplier on board early so that we can start detailed design work as soon as the Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO) application is submitted. This will make sure we keep on track to finish construction by December 2019.



Environmental work completed

The environmental impact assessment work for the barrier is now complete. Subject experts have started to review the draft Environmental Statement before it goes to statutory consultees Like Natural England, Heritage England, the Marine Management Organisation and local authorities.

Other local news: managing flood risk in the Black Sluice Catchment

A 6 week public consultation on the best way to manage flood risk in the Black Sluice Catchment (the area around the South Forty Foot Drain including Black Sluice Pumping Station in Boston) will begin on 17 August.

Black Sluice Pumping Station was flooded during the tidal surge on 5 December 2013 - when 3 of the 5 pumps were damaged beyond repair. The remaining pumps are now over 50 years old and need replacing.

The Environment Agency is looking at options for the future of Black Sluice Pumping Station, including refurbishment, decommissioning or transferring it to Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board.

Black Sluice Catchment Works consultation: how can I share my views?

The consultation is taking place between 17 August and 27 September 2015.

You can come and talk to the Environment Agency and Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board between 1pm and 8pm at: Billingborough Village Hall on 25 August, Rippingale Village Hall on 10 September and Bicker Village Hall on 22 September.

The project team will also be at the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board offices, Station Road, Swineshead, PE20 3PW between 10am and 3pm on: 17 August, 1 September and 14 September.

The consultation document can be accessed online here from 17 August:

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/portal/>

There will be consultation documents available to view at Boston Borough Council offices on West Street and at the Boston Barrier Community Hub on Marsh Lane.

If you have any comments about the consultation or would like a copy of the consultation document and a response form then please call 01522 785904 or email

BlackSluiceCatchment@environment-agency.gov.uk

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For more updates on the project please follow [@BostonBarrierEA](https://twitter.com/BostonBarrierEA) on twitter or visit our facebook page www.facebook.com/BostonBarrier

Any questions?

Email Boston.Barrier@environment-agency.gov.uk or call 07747 640663.

