

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with Calderdale Council, ARUP and BAM Nuttall to deliver the Brighouse Flood Alleviation Scheme. This update provides you with information about our progress on the scheme.

Information Bulletin No.5 – March 2025

The Scheme

The flood alleviation scheme for Brighouse includes upstream storage in Wellholme Park and Whinney Hill Park, as well as repair and replacement of defences along the River Calder and Clifton Beck.

Progress Update – Wellholme Park

Despite being hampered by weather conditions at the start of the year, good progress has been made with the construction work in Wellholme Park. We have continued with the formation of the embankments around the park, which will form the flood storage area. Construction of the new foot/cycleways has commenced, along the top of the embankments. Next steps include laying a tarmac covering on the foot/cycle way.



Ongoing construction of new footway/cycle



Bridge Abutments

We have also installed the abutments for three new footbridges. The new bridges will span the gap between the paths across the flood storage area. The footbridges will be installed in the coming months.

Realignment works to Clifton Beck have commenced at the downstream end of the park. Water in the beck will take a new route at this location, to by-pass the weir and allow the migration of fish upstream and downstream.

Within the floodstorage area, work has continued on the formation of the bunds. Bunds are like small embankments, made of soil which will help to control the flow of water in and out of the flood storage area. Natural materials have been used where possible in the construction to reduce carbon and long term contamination.



Clifton Beck Channel realignment



Weir base construction

Progress Update – Whinney Hill Park

Construction work in Whinney Hill Park has now commenced. We have removed topsoil to begin construction of the embankments using a clay material. An inlet weir has been constructed to the western side of the park.

Contact us! If you have any concerns or questions email us at – BrighouseFAS@environment-agency.gov.uk.

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with Calderdale Council, ARUP and BAM Nuttall to deliver the Brighouse Flood Alleviation Scheme. This update provides you with information about our progress on the scheme.

During high water levels, the weir will allow water to flow from Hoyle House Beck into the flood storage area within Whinney Hill park.

An historic culvert system has been located in the park and uncovered for archaeological recording before its removal. The stone from the culvert is being reclaimed and will be reused within the works for stone pitching (erosion control) and dry-stone walls to ensure connectivity of the scheme to the history of the park.

River Street Pumping Station

Part of the Brighouse Flood Alleviation scheme consists of reducing surface water flood risk to properties at the Eastern end of River Street. This will involve the construction of an underground pumping station and discharge pipe to the River Calder. A Planning Application has now been submitted to Calderdale Council for this construction work, which is due to commence over the summer period of 2025. The Planning Application is now live on the Council's Planning Portal shortly (ref 25/00147/FUL). The work has been programmed in collaboration with Yorkshire Water, so that our works follow on from Yorkshire Water works (Storm spill reduction programme) in order to minimise disruption to residents and businesses.

Industrial Archaeology

Excavation during construction in Wellholme Park has revealed archaeological remains relating to the town's milling heritage. We brought archaeologists on to site to investigate whether any archaeological evidence of the mill races associated with Little John Mill survive.



Archaeological excavations revealed the two mill races associated with Little John Mill, which drew water from Clifton Beck. The mill races took the form of large ditches, which would have been dug using hand tools, running broadly northwest to southeast across the site. Pottery fragments, of various types, largely date from around 1840

to the late 19th or early 20th century were found, alongside various ceramics. The ceramics include complete 'Stoneware' cream pots, and pieces of jars and beer flagons; fragments of 'Colour Glazed Ware' teapots; 'Whiteware' plates, cups and dishes, some decorated with floral transfer-printed designs. More details about the archaeological excavation can be found by visiting www.eyeoncalderdale.com under the Projects section.

Contact us! If you have any concerns or questions email us at – BrighouseFAS@environment-agency.gov.uk.

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with Calderdale Council, ARUP and BAM Nuttall to deliver the Brighouse Flood Alleviation Scheme. This update provides you with information about our progress on the scheme.

Working in the Community

In recent months BAM have been volunteering to support Happy Days UK, a homelessness charity based in Halifax. During winter they helped the charity to prepare festive gifts for their residents and repaired shelving within their community supermarket. In recent weeks they have volunteered to provide support with access to IT services, utilising laptops donated by our design partner ARUP.

Track the scheme progress from the air!

Drone footage is now available to view the scheme progress. Visit the Eye on Calderdale [‘You Tube’](#) page to view the latest footage.



Feedback

We'd love to hear your feedback about the project so far.

Scan this QR code to provide your views!!

Brighouse Flood Alleviation
Scheme (FAS)



Contact us! If you have any concerns or questions email us at – BrighouseFAS@environment-agency.gov.uk.