



BRIEFING DOCUMENT FOR THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY

24 JANUARY 2023

REPORT ON YORKSHIRE DERWENT CATCHMENT PARTNERSHIP NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT SCHEME ALONG WATH BECK – REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION OF 20% TOWARDS THE SCHEME

Floods have impacted a number of properties in the village of Fryton, North Yorkshire across recent decades, including in January 2021 where two properties were flooded.

High flows within Wath Beck and surface water issues within the village are thought to be contributing factors to flooding of affected properties. Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership (YDCP) and Ryevitalise have been exploring options for implementing Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures upstream of the village to slow the flow and reduce flood water peaks within Wath beck, reducing flood risk to affected properties in Fryton.

In 2021 Ryevitalise identified a location 2.5km upstream of the village which has potential for implementing a NFM scheme. Following engagement with YDCP, the landowner (Hovingham Estate) and initial investigation works, a consultant was commissioned to undertake a feasibility assessment of the options and effectiveness of NFM measures on Wath Beck and how this may reduce high flows through Fryton village.

Two key areas within the upstream site were highlighted where floodplain reconnection and re-naturalisation of Wath Beck could provide significant flood storage during high rainfall events. Measures including creation of natural woody dams, selective riverbank lowering, and re-meandering of a straightened channel will increase the rivers connection to the floodplain and allow water to be stored upstream of the village during high rainfall events and released slowly once the flood events have passed.

The initial options assessment forecasts a total project cost of £120,000 and the final report is expected in January 2023. YDCP are seeking funding to support the implementation of NFM measures indicated in the feasibility assessment which will be completed over the next two years.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that a contribution is made towards the YDCP Fryton project of 20% of the total project costs to a maximum of £24,000 based on total costs of £120,000 to be funded from the approved Flooding Contingency capital budget.