

# Public Document Pack

## Flood Management Working Party

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Held at Meeting Room 1, Ryedale House, Malton  
on Tuesday 24 January 2023

### Present

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Councillors Keal (Chair), Potter and Thackray

### In Attendance

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Beckie Bennett, John Cave, Gary Collins, Lily Hamilton, Grace Lawes and Margaret Wallace

By Invitation of the Chair: Howard Keal (Norton Community Flood Group)

### Minutes

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#### 22 Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received.

#### 23 Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Flood Management Working Party on 15 November 2022 were approved.

#### Voting record

Agreed by general affirmation

#### 24 Yorkshire Water

Gary Collins from Yorkshire Water attended the meeting for the discussion of this item.

An verbal update was provided to the working party on the delays to the progress of works in Norton and Brawby.

Points raised by members included:

- The concern that project were being pushed back to the next AMP period and the delays to the progress of works (April 2025).
- Residents anxieties surrounding lack of pump deployment in early January with river levels having been high. Why were pumps not deployed during this time as they had been in November?
- Higher levels of investment being needed in infrastructure such as combined systems.
- Could Yorkshire water provide a figure for sewer discharge into the River Derwent?

Yorkshire Water provided the following statement on Fracking:

## **Yorkshire Water's Position On Fracking**

Our primary concern is making sure the people of Yorkshire always enjoy the safest drinking water. With that in mind, shale gas extraction is an issue that we consider to be of strategic importance to our water and wastewater services. We have developed this policy position following an assessment of the best available information of relevant issues, threats and opportunities.

Yorkshire Water is now a statutory consultee on planning or permit applications for shale gas exploration or extraction. Our primary concern is making sure that where fracking does occur it is done safely and has no impact on water supplies. To ensure water supplies are protected we set high thresholds which must be met before we can consider supporting any proposed development.

There are two key issue to consider the impact of fracking on – water quality and water supplies:

### **Water quality**

With the high levels of regulation from Government, HSE, Environment Agency, Planning Authorities and close observation by water companies the construction and operation of shale gas wells has a low risk of adverse impact on water quality. Flowback and produced water from shale gas operations are unlikely to differ significantly from produced water from 'conventional' oil and gas production. There is great deal of experience in safely handling this material and the Environment Agency would regulate any waste disposal from fracking operations. Prior to agreeing to receive waste water from shale gas operations, we will ensure that it is treatable to the appropriate standards and will not harm the water environment into which it is discharged.

### **Water supplies**

All water companies have an obligation to offer a water supply to any legally operating company in their area. As a consequence of our obligations we need to consider the implications on water supplies. The water demand for shale gas exploration, hydraulic fracturing and during production is well within our water management plan forecasts. It is a very small proportion of our overall production and it is likely that we will not supply all the water needs of these operations. Yorkshire Water produces 1.2 billion litres of water every day. The likely peak water demand for shale gas is around 2.2 million litres per day, or less that 0.2% of daily production.

### **Conclusion**

As companies apply for permission to produce Shale gas and hydraulic fracturing we will review our policy and if necessary change this policy to reflect the hazards and risks to our customers and the environment. Our current assessment is that the risks from shale gas production are acceptable, provided they are properly identified in order that appropriate mitigation can be implemented.

### **How we will be looking after Yorkshire's water**

- To support our policy we have and will maintain channels of communication with shale gas exploration and production companies.
- We will continue to comment as an interested and expert party on planning applications and permit

The Working Party thanked Gary for his update and attending the meeting.

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### **Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership**

John Cave from Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership attended the meeting for the discussion of this item.

Both the request for an annual contribution of £5,000 to Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership and a contribution towards the Fryton feasibility study were shared with members.

Points raised by elected members included:

- Concerns surrounding whether this annual contribution would continue into the new authority.
- The support for the 5 aims of the partnership.
- The support for Natural Flood Management practices.
- The benefit of talking to community groups, and whether the residents of Fryton would get the opportunity to be included in discussions.

Considered – Briefing document of the Head of Waste and Environment.

#### **Recommendation to P&R**

It is recommended that an annual contribution to the Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership of £5,000 is made in 22/23 from the existing revenue budget.

#### Voting record

Unanimous

#### **Recommendation to P&R**

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.

#### Voting record

Unanimous

## **Fryton Briefing Document**

### **26 Action Tracker**

The Head of Waste and Environment provided a verbal update on the live action tracking for the working party which would be circulated with the minutes. At the next meeting on 6 March details of how all live actions will be taken forward by the new North Yorkshire Council or other partner agencies would be an agenda item and a colleague from NYCC Flood Risk would also attend the meeting to provide an update on their work beyond 1 April 2023.

The action tracker spreadsheet can be found in Annex 1.

### **Annex 1**

### **27 Dates of future meetings**

Members agreed the next meeting to be held on 6 March 2023.

### **28 Any other business**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:37pm.



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**BRIEFING DOCUMENT FOR THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY****24 JANUARY 2023****SUMMARY OF YORKSHIRE DERWENT CATCHMENT PARTNERSHIP FINANCIAL STRATEGY – REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION OF £5,000**

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Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership have requested all Board Members commit to a contribution of £5,000 to assist in developing new projects and supporting existing projects in 2023 to 2024.

This financial contribution is for core ‘restricted’ funding for staff costs to carry out project development and project fundraising in the Upper and Middle Derwent operational catchments. A map providing an overview of current YDCP projects in Ryedale is attached at Appendix 2.

Funding will contribute to the completion of SMART targets set out over the next 5 years and sit under the following 5 aims:

**Aim 1: Ensure a resilient catchment through community engagement and promoting integrated, sustainable land management which benefits the rural economy.**

**Aim 2: Improve water level management, reducing flood risk and preserving water resources.**

**Aim 3: Secure better soil conservation and water quality.**

**Aim 4: Create extensive habitat connectivity and species resilience.**

**Aim 5. Ensure good partnership governance and develop a robust evidence base.**

Current projects in delivery:

1. **‘Doing more for the Derwent Project’** (Environment Agency funded) involved in INNS control of giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed
2. **Derwent Upland streams** to improve water quality by reducing sediment input from poor land management and forestry in headwater streams of the Derwent catchment.
3. **River Dove sub catchment NFM project** improving water retention of the landscape above Kirkbymoorside about to start 23/24.

New potential projects looking for start-up funding for investigation:

4. **Fryton NFM proposal**, fundraising to implement the consultant’s design.
5. **Cayton & Flixton Carrs**, investigating possibilities and opportunities to link potential flood storage with peat restoration and carbon storage.
6. **Upper and Middle Derwent Restoration** to address the impacts of physical modifications by creating space for a more natural river.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that an annual contribution of £5,000 is made in 22/23 from the existing revenue budget.

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**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**

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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.

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# Flood Management Action Plan 2022-23

Agency Responsible	Date of action	Live Actions
<b>Short Term Actions</b>		
NYCC	22/07/21	MNOM Flood Alleviation Scheme
NYCC	22/07/21	Updates on NYCC's live schemes to be shared
RDC	05/11/21	Pump replacement investment plan
YW	15/11/21	YW to share details with partners of the Norton study outcomes
YW	15/11/21	More clarity to provided on investment plans for permanent solutions to the two Community Flood Groups in Norton and Malton as it is important that there is good communication with communities affected by flooding.
RDC	15/11/22	Development of newsletter for Kirkbymoorside
EA	09/12/21	Update on River Severn flood management works
EA	09/12/21	Conclusion and timescales of MNOM FAS
EA	09/12/21	Update on tree works in Malton and Norton
EA	09/12/21	Further details on river screens
EA	09/12/21	Updates of the Bund, Pickering
YW	16/09/21	East Riding of Yorkshire paper which provides information on implementing SuDs will be circulated and a link to the work of other local authorities in creating a supplementary planning document will be provided
YW	05/11/21	Pump investment replacement plan.
RDC	27/09/21	Malton and Norton's Regeneration Project updates to be circulated

<b>Medium Term Actions</b>		
YW	16/09/21	Malton and Norton Study
EA	15.11.2022	Work taking place to investigate current river asset stock, in order to sustain projects
YDCP	30/09/21	Improve water quality of 8 identified waterbodies in the upper catchment (Derwent Upland Streams)
YDCP	22/11/21	Costa Beck Project
YW	16/09/21	Malton and Norton Study
RDC	16/09/21	RDC's Flood Plan to be updated
NYCC	24/01/21	How does YDCP access yearly contributions within the new Council
<b>Long Term Actions</b>		
ALL	22/11/21	Update the climate change action plan to ensure adapting to mitigate flood risk is included
YW	22/11/21	Living with Water Process Plan
YW	16/09/21	Brawby area flooding proposed solutions
YW	16/09/21	Norton Scheme to replace temporary pumping with a permanent pump solution
RDC	22/11/21	Work in line with the Environment Act
ALL	22/11/21	Potential permanent solutions
EA	15.11.2022	Works ongoing to check conditions the flood defences in Malton & Norton