East Lothian Council

Turner & Townsend

MEETING AGENDA

Client:	East Lothian Council
Project:	Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme
Meeting date:	28 February 2017
Meeting location:	Scottish Government Offices - Victoria Quay - Edinburgh
Meeting title:	Statutory Stakeholder - Scheme Update & Issues
Attendees	ELC: [redacted] SG: [redacted] SEPA ([redacted])

	DISSCUSION TOPIC	OWNER
1	**Apologies:**	
1.1	Confirmation of attendance / apologies.	[redacted]
2	**Introductions:**	
2.1	Round table opportunity to allow all present to intoduce themselves and their position.	ALL
2.2	Opportunity to commence establishment of a relationship between the key statutory parties to the advancement of the Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme.	ALL
2.3	Update / discussion on the appropriate communication routes for queries relating to a FPS under the national FPS Programme: i.e. who is in control of the programme; how is it being managed; what information needs to move in both directions; who is there to assist with technical / logistical / legislative queries; what if there an overlap / issue / opportunity between for example the FPS and the WFD or the national transport network?	ALL
3	**Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme (the Scheme):**	
3.1	Project Manager [redacted] to provide a brief high-level update on the current status of the Scheme - this will include the key project management criteria of: time; cost; quality; issues; risks; opportunities etc.	[redacted]
3.2	Discussion about the Scheme within the context of the Flood Risk Strategies and the Local Flood Risk Management Plans. It is hoped that a little more insight into: the early stage national prioritisation; available moddeling / data; hopes / aspirations; and assumed challenges etc. can be provided to the Project Team.	ALL

3.3	Project Manager [redacted] to provide a brief high-level update on the just completed full review of all available information to the Project Team - this will include: flood maps / areas at risk of flooding; properties at risk of flooding (and potential to protect more); potential benefits available (and potential to increase BCR); etc.	[redacted]
4	**Queries relating to a FPS development under the FRM:**	
4.1	Discussion about what a 'property' is? Is there a database of the 108,000 properties at risk of flooding in Scotland? Where does this number come from? [redacted] to provide an overview of the issues as the Project Team see it with specific examples relating to the subtleties of the 'property' concept at a site specific level.	
4.2	Discussion about the process for advancing the evolution of the scope of a FPS within the FPS Programme. If a Scheme needs to organigally evolve through its Optional Appraisal, Outline Design, and Approvals process: then how can this be managed within the context of possible changes to time and cost within a higher level programme?	ALL
4.3	Discussion about the design of a FPS under the 'ethos' of the FRM and the desire / requirement to achieve NFM and catchment management within this: implications with the PVA 10/21 and PVA 10/22 NFM Study, and ability to fund such NFM measures within the other 'cells' of a Scheme.	ALL
4.4	Review of any implications for the Scheme deriving from the discussion topics within Section 4 of this Agenda.	ALL
5	**A.O.B.**	
5.1	Opportunity for meeting to deal with other relevant matters.	ALL

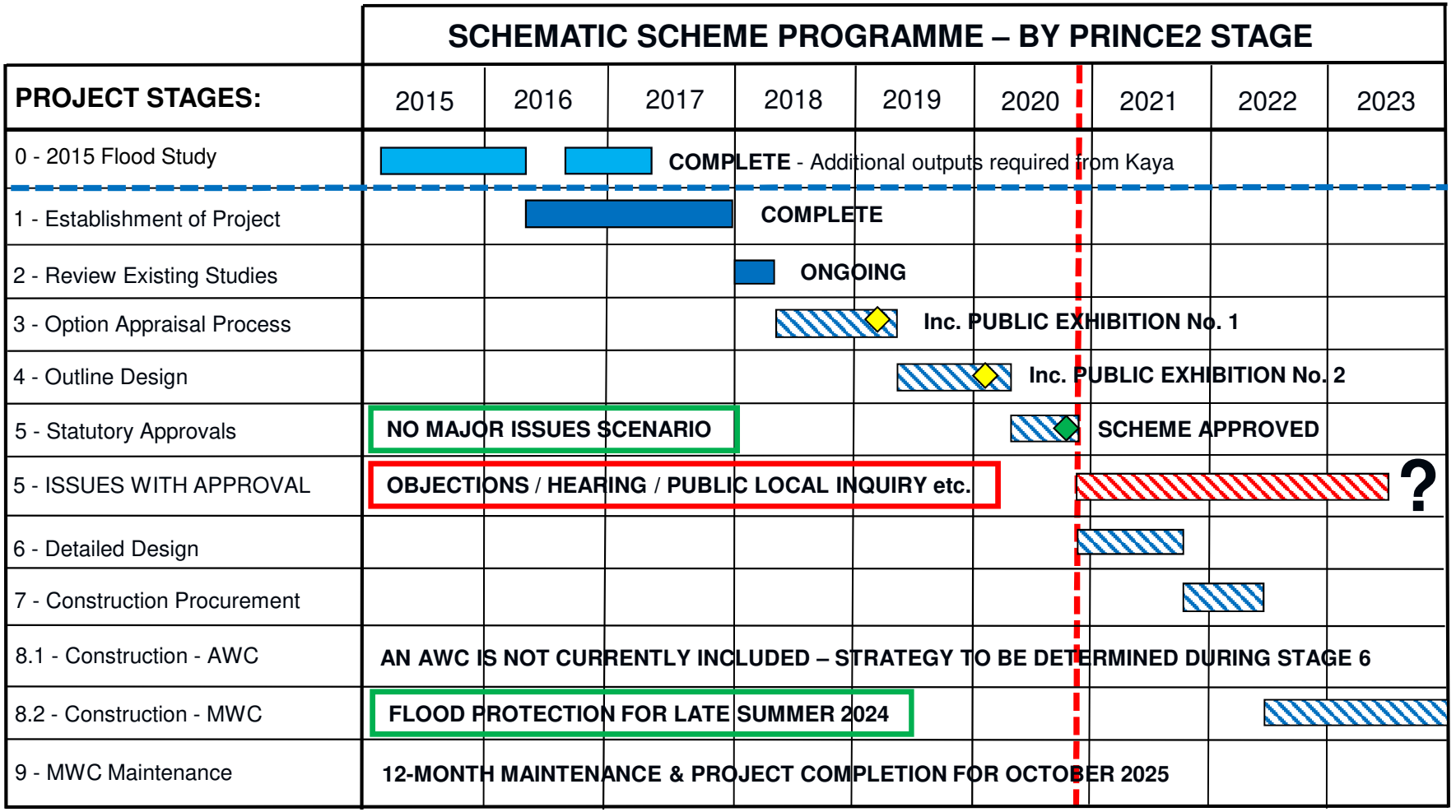
Future Proofing Musselburgh's Infrastructure for Sustainable Modes of Travel

East Lothian Council

28 January 2016

MUSSELBURGH FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME

Revision Date: 25/06/2018



East Lothian Council

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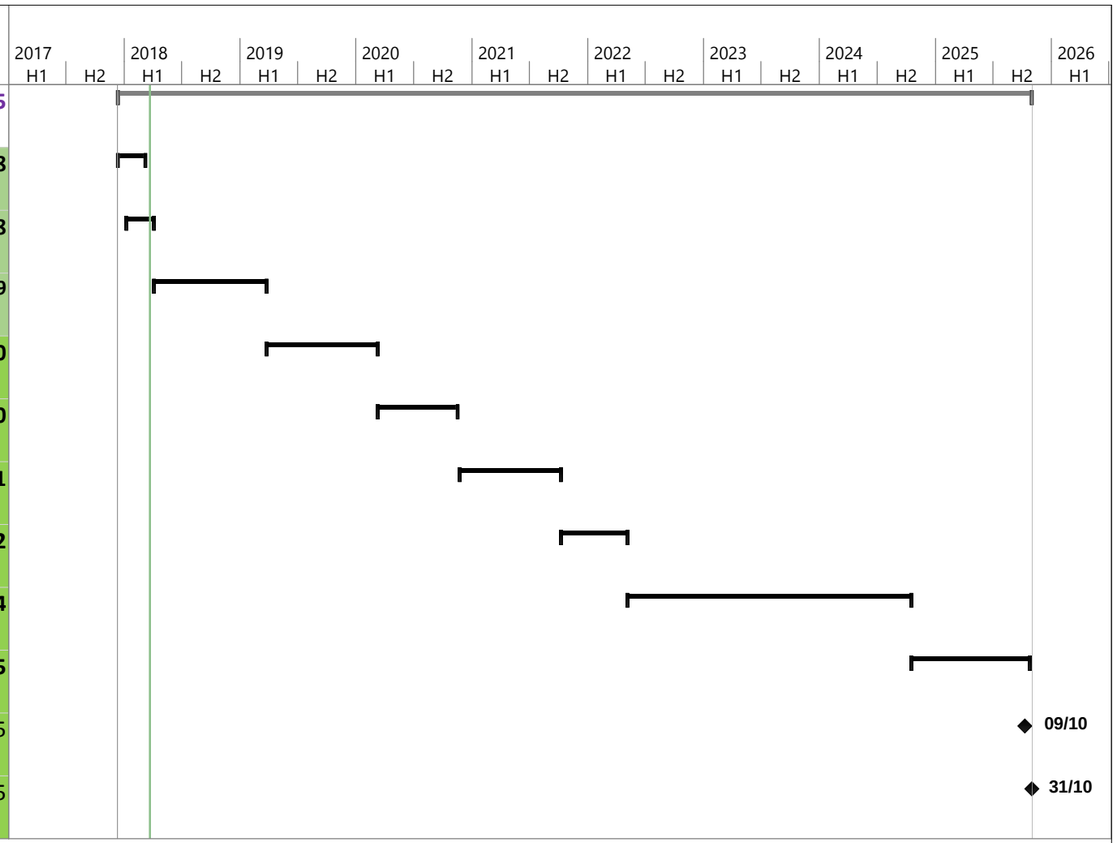
ID		% Comp	Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish
0		2%	Musselburgh FPS - Design Consultant Contract Programme	1982 days?	Mon 11/12/17	Fri 31/10/25
1	✓	10...	1 Contract Award	54 days	Mon 11/12/17	Thu 08/03/18
10		57%	2 Stage 2 - Review of Existing Information	63 days	Mon 08/01/18	Thu 05/04/18
96		0%	3 Stage 3 - Option Appraisal	244 days?	Thu 05/04/18	Mon 25/03/19
165		0%	4 Stage 4 Outline Design	240 days	Mon 25/03/19	Mon 09/03/20
193		0%	5 Stage 5 - Statutory Approvals	180 days	Mon 09/03/20	Mon 16/11/20
212		0%	6 Stage 6 - Detailed Design	220 days	Mon 23/11/20	Fri 08/10/21
234		0%	7 Stage 7 - Construction Preparation	140 days	Fri 08/10/21	Thu 05/05/22
250		0%	8 Stage 8 - Construction	620 days	Fri 06/05/22	Wed 16/10/24
265		0%	9 Stage 9 - Construction Maintenance	255 days	Thu 17/10/24	Fri 24/10/25
277		0%	10 Planned Completion	0 days	Thu 09/10/25	Thu 09/10/25
278		0%	11 Completion Date	0 days	Fri 31/10/25	Fri 31/10/25



Project: Musselburgh FPS - Design Co
Date: Fri 23/03/18

Task	Inactive Task	Manual Summary Rollup	External Milestone	Manual Progress
Split	Inactive Milestone	Manual Summary	Deadline	
Milestone	Inactive Summary	Start-only	Critical	
Summary	Manual Task	Finish-only	Critical Split	
Project Summary	Duration-only	External Tasks	Progress	

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 21 June 2018 11:53
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: MFPS - Modelling - SEPA - FWD of Update on UKCP18 projections for LA flood studies

Hi ALL,

Further to my recent request to SEPA, please see their response below.

Can I please request your thoughts on this response?

- Is this what we were expecting?
- Does this present any new issues for our programme/next steps?
- Have they actually answered the correct question and if not then what is the question?
- Do we contact UKCP18 as suggested?
- Any other thoughts?

Regards,

[redacted]
Project Manager - Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme
Structures, Flooding & Street Lighting

[redacted]

East Lothian Council | Musselburgh FPS | Infrastructure | Partnerships & Community Services
John Muir House | Haddington | East Lothian | EH41 3HA
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 14 June 2018 13:32
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: UKCP18 projections for LA flood studies

Hi [redacted]

With regards to your CFB data/CP18 update please see below from [redacted]

The Climate change guidance (for the purpose of planning) is currently being reviewed and should be getting published in the next month or so. Fiona has kindly offered some advice on CC uplifts, and her suggestions are below.

Hope this helps,

[redacted]

[redacted]

SEPA (Edinburgh office)
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 14 June 2018 13:03
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: UKCP18 projections for LA flood studies

Hi [redacted]

CFB – SEPA have received the draft data. This shows no significant change to the previous CFB dataset for Leith. Levels at Musselburgh are therefore unlikely to have changed. I think the new dataset will be published in the next couple of months by the EA.
UKCP18 – Marine projections are now available, but will not be publically released until November. It is possible to request early access to the data, but I'm not sure that this will be granted for LA flood studies. To request early access to the UKCP18 sea level rise projections (no other data will be available), they need to e-mail ukcpproject@metoffice.gov.uk state the organization, the title of project and why they need the data prior to November. The UKCP18 project will pass the request onto Defra who will decide whether to issue the data or not.

CC uplifts:
Rainfall uplifts - Use UKWIR phase 2.
Flow uplifts – refer to our flood modelling guidance
https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/219653/flood_model_guidance_v2.pdf

[redacted]

East Lothian Council

NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNICATIONS
AND MARKETING

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Haddington
East Lothian
EH41 3HA

Preparatory investigation work starts for Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme

On Monday 8th October, ground investigation survey work will start in Musselburgh to assess the existing ground make-up and groundwater levels – as part of the Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme.

Contractors Raeburn Drilling will be carrying out the work on behalf of the project team, which will involve 15 boreholes and five trial pits alongside both the River Esk and Pinkie Burn. The works will take place over nine weeks and are expected to be completed before Christmas.

Two teams will be carrying out the works with one team working on four boreholes within the grounds of Pinkie St. Peters school and the second team working on boreholes and trial pits at the mouth of the River Esk.

The teams will then work their way up the Esk where locations have been strategically chosen to maximise the potential for valuable information to be gathered, whilst minimising the potential for impact on the town.

Musselburgh has a history of damaging floods from the River Esk although the last major flood, and inundation of the High Street, was in 1948. However, in recent years the combination of rising sea levels and changing weather patterns has suggested a possible higher incidence of flooding events in the future. In addition, parts of the Pinkie area of Musselburgh have also experienced problems associated with groundwater levels.

In December 2017 the council engaged Jacobs as the new Design Consultant and tasked them with developing a scheme for Musselburgh. Since then the project team has been preparing an approach to delivering this project, and collecting survey information. To date, the first phases of the topographic survey works and ecological surveys have been completed.

The next phase of the topographic survey will involve the surveyors determining the ‘threshold’ levels for properties within the flood plain. In essence this is the level at which water begins to enter the house. This survey will also begin in the coming weeks and the surveyors will be visiting households as part of the survey and general awareness-building of the scheme.

The project team is currently building a new computer-based hydraulic model which will confirm the actual flood risk to the town. Once this is complete, the team will develop the best combination of flood risk reduction measures to protect the town. The result of the hydraulic modelling will be available to local residents at a public exhibition in spring 2019.

Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Norman Hampshire explained: “The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) carried out country-wide Flood Risk Management Strategies which both described current flood risk and identified specific actions that will reduce risk. East Lothian Council is developing this scheme because the town of Musselburgh is at significant risk of flooding, and protecting it is considered both a national and council priority.

“The actual scheme will be developed over the coming years through a consultative process with key stakeholders and the town of Musselburgh.”

Conor Price, Project Manager for the scheme, added: “The Project Team is systematically establishing contact with stakeholders, businesses and the people of Musselburgh. Over the next period we will ramp-up this effort and obviously with ground investigation works being visible, people will become aware of us. We will have a stall at the council’s ‘Resilient Communities Workshop’ at The Brunton on Saturday 27 October. Please come along as see us if you would like more information.”

ENDS

3 October 2018
Issued by Pauline Bristow, Communications Officer. East Lothian Council Tel: 01620 827800.

MUSSELBURGH FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME

Information on historic flooding

This is a Public Info Notice Board – Notice Board Number 1 of 4 – Located at river pathway by Eskmills

Is Musselburgh at risk of flooding?

The town of Musselburgh sits at the mouth of the River Esk on the Firth of Forth and the town's river corridor and coastal strip sit on low ground which is susceptible to flooding for a number of flooding sources, namely:

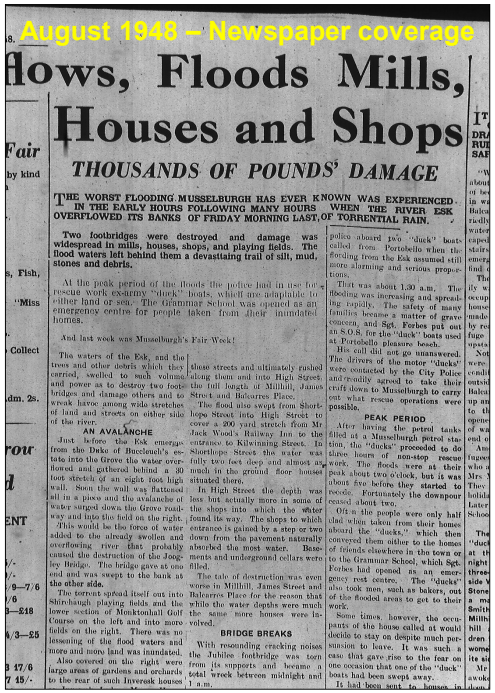
- The River Esk
- The Firth of Forth – both over Fisherrow Promenade and from backing up the town's watercourses
- The Musselburgh Mill Lade
- The Pinkie Burn
- Along with groundwater and secondary flooding risks

The Scheme is currently developing a computer-based Hydraulic Model of these water systems so that flood maps can be generated which will confirm the actual level of flood risk to the town. Once that flood level is confirmed a process will then be commenced to determine the most appropriate flood risk reduction options through which that risk can be reduced and thereby the town protected.

We will present the flood risk and the flood risk reduction options through a formal Public Exhibition during Summer 2019.

What does the Marker Post at Eskmills Show?

The actual flood water levels of the 1891 and 1948 floods were recorded on the external wall of the Musselburgh Paper Mill Gatehouse which once stood at Eskmills. The gatehouse was demolished during the late 1970's, however before it was demolished the flood levels were recorded to Ordnance Survey Datum by a Council Engineer. These flood levels have been replicated on a Marker Post which is located adjacent to the river pathway at Eskmills, so that the people of Musselburgh have access to this information once again, and so that you can 'experience' the scale of flooding that took place on those occasions.



August 1948 – Newspaper coverage

...lows, Floods Mills, Houses and Shops

THOUSANDS OF POUNDS' DAMAGE

THE WORST FLOODING MUSSELBURGH HAS EVER KNOWN WAS EXPERIENCED IN THE EARLY HOURS FOLLOWING MANY HOURS WHEN THE RIVER ESK OVERFLOWED ITS BANKS OF FRIDAY MORNING LAST, OF TORRENTIAL RAIN.

Two footbridges were destroyed and damage was widespread in mills, houses, shops, and playing fields. The flood waters left behind them a devastating trail of silt, mud, stones and debris.

At the peak period of the floods the police had in use for rescue work ex-army "duck" boats, which are adaptable to either land or sea. The Grammar School was opened as an emergency centre for people taken from their inundated homes.

And last week was Musselburgh's Fair-Week!

The waters of the Esk, and the trees and other debris which they carried, swelled to such volume and power as to destroy two footbridges and damage others and to wreak havoc among wide stretches of land and streets on either side of the river.

AN AVALANCHE

Just before the Esk emerges from the Duke of Buccleuch's estate into the Grove the water overflowed and gathered behind a 30 foot stretch of an eight foot high wall. Soon the wall was flattened all in a piece and the avalanche of water surged down the Grove road-way and into the field on the right.

This would be the force of water added to the already swollen and overflowing river that probably caused the destruction of the Joggy Bridge. The bridge gave at one end and was swept to the bank at the other side.

The torrent spread itself out into Shirehaugh playing fields and the lower section of Monktonhall Golf Course on the left and into more fields on the right. There was no lessening of the flood waters and more and more land was inundated.

Also covered on the right were large areas of gardens and orchards to the rear of such riverside houses

police aboard two "duck" boats called from Portobello when the flooding from the Esk assumed still more alarming and serious proportions.

That was about 1.30 a.m. The flooding was increasing and spreading rapidly. The safety of many families became a matter of grave concern, and Sgt. Forbes put out an S.O.S. for the "duck" boats used at Portobello pleasure beach.

His call did not go unanswered. The drivers of the motor "ducks" were contacted by the City Police and readily agreed to take their crafts down to Musselburgh to carry out what rescue operations were possible.

PEAK PERIOD

After having the petrol tanks filled at a Musselburgh petrol station, the "ducks" proceeded to do three hours of non-stop rescue work. The floods were at their peak about two o'clock, but it was about five before they started to recede. Fortunately the downpour ceased about two.

Often the people were only half clad when taken from their homes aboard the "ducks," which then conveyed them either to the homes of friends elsewhere in the town or to the Grammar School, which Sgt. Forbes had opened as an emergency rest centre. The "ducks" also took men, such as bakers, out of the flooded areas to get to their work.

Some times, however, the occupants of the house called at would decide to stay on despite much persuasion to leave. It was such a case that gave rise to the fear on one occasion that one of the "duck" boats had been swept away.

It had been sent to houses in

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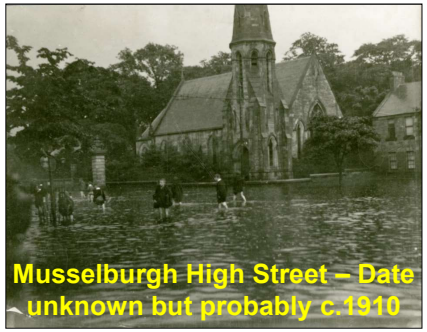
15/-

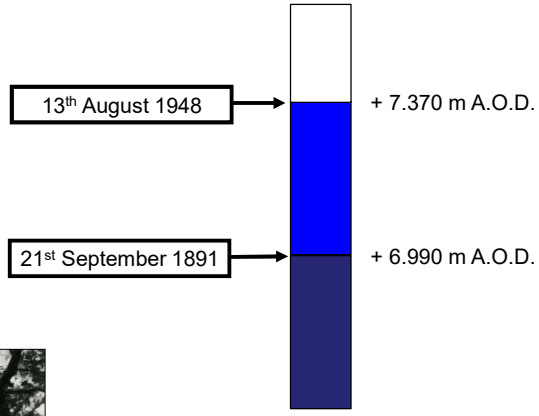
BRIDGE BREAKS

With resounding cracking noises the Jubilee footbridge was torn from its supports and became a total wreck between midnight and 1 a.m.

September 1891 – Eskside West looking downstream



Musselburgh High Street – Date unknown but probably c.1910



Flood Level Marker Post (Located beside path, Eskmills)

Do you have information on flooding in Musselburgh?

The Scheme's Project Team will be in The Brunton Theatre on Tuesday 26th September 2019.

If you have any historic information – photos, records or memories – and would like to share them with the Scheme we invite you to come along.

We look forward to hearing from you.

East Lothian Council

Turner & Townsend

CPE CONSULTANCY

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MUSSELBURGH FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME

OPEN DAY AND CALL FOR HISTORIC INFORMATION

Event details:

Date: 26th February 2019

Location: Venue 2, The Brunton, Musselburgh

Time: From 11 am to 9 pm

Introduce the team to your town's historical issues with flooding from all water sources and tell us your flooding story.

This is your opportunity to bring along historical information on past flooding events and to present any concerns you have about flooding in Musselburgh

Members of the Project Team and other flooding organisations will available to discuss the project with you over a cup of tea or coffee

We hope you can attend this event

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MUSSELBURGH FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME OPEN DAY and CALL FOR HISTORIC FLOODING INFORMATION

Local residents are invited to discover more about the flood protection works being planned for Musselburgh at an open public event to be held at Venue 2, The Brunton on Tuesday 26 February. The event has been designed to provide flooding information to interested parties in Musselburgh and will showcase progress made by East Lothian Council to date. Members of the Scheme's Project Team will be available to discuss local concerns and answer any questions.

The event will also include stalls from Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Flood Forum and the council's Emergency Planning section who will be present to provide information and advice on flood risk, flood warning systems and property-level protection measures that householders may want to put in place.

Musselburgh has a history of damaging floods from the River Esk - the last major flood, and inundation of the High Street occurred in 1948. There were also significant events in 1927 and 1891. There is a lack of evidence of these events available to the Scheme, and so the Project Team are asking local people who may have any historical photos or memories of these flood events to get in touch.

Conor Price, Project Manager for the Scheme said: "Historical evidence of past flood events is hugely valuable to the Project Team. We can use photographs of flood level to re-run simulations of the flood events that previously occurred and calibrate our new hydraulic model. The water level gauge in the River Esk by Eskmills was only installed in 1962, therefore we do not necessarily have full records of all flood events prior to this date. We are hoping this 'Call for Information' will allow us to build-up our knowledge of the town's infrastructure and incidents of historic flooding."

Musselburgh also has a flood risk from the Firth of Forth which can flow over Fisherrow Promenade and back-up the River Esk, along with, the Pinkie Burn; the Musselburgh Mill Lade; and ground-water issues which have been particularly noted in the Windsor Park / Pinkie Road area. Information is also being sought on local knowledge on any of these flood risks.

The Project Team have installed a timber post at Eskmills at the start of the river pathway, along with a notice board. This post has reproduced the actual recorded flood levels experienced in this area during the flood events of August 1948 and September 1891. These levels were historically marked on the gatehouse at this location, and were recorded by the Council's engineer prior to the gatehouse being demolished in the 1970's. It is hoped that in reproducing these levels that people of the town can appreciate the scale of the major flood events that Musselburgh experience in the past.

In recent years, the combination of rising sea levels and changing weather patterns has suggested a possibly higher incidence of flooding events in the future. The Project Team are currently finalising a new Hydraulic Model which will be capable of simulating all of these flood risks. The new flood maps deriving from this model, along with the proposed flood protection options will be presented to the town via a formal Public Exhibition during the summer of 2019.

Cabinet member for Environment, Cllr Norman Hampshire said: "In December 2017 the council engaged a Design Consultant and tasked them with developing a Scheme for Musselburgh. Since then the project has been preparing an approach to delivering this project, and collecting survey information. The first phases of topographic survey works and ecological surveys have been completed including surveyors determining the 'threshold' levels for properties within the flood plain. In essence this is the level at which water begins to enter a house."

"The Project Team has also developed a new computer-based hydraulic model which will confirm the actual flood risk to the town. Only once the flood risk is fully understood can the project start developing the best combination of flood risk reduction measures through which that risk can be reduced and thereby the town protected. I would urge Musselburgh residents who may be concerned to come along to the Open Day and discover more about the extensive works being planned to protect their town from flood risks."

ENDS

19 February 2019

Issued by Jill Mackay, Communications, East Lothian Council Tel: 01620 827743.

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An edition of East Lothian Courier

Thursday, August 8, 2019 Price 95p

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CHIME TIME

HISTORIC TOWN BELLS HEARD AGAIN: P10

ALL ABOARD

GREAT GALLERY FROM FESTIVAL RAFT RACE: P12

'Physical defences' needed to safeguard the Honest Toun

Fighting back against flood threat

The River Esk at Musselburgh burst its banks five years ago. Image: Scott Watt

By Avril Campbell
acampbell@eastlothiancourier.com

A PREFERRED multi-million pound flood prevention scheme to safeguard Musselburgh against extreme weather will be unveiled in November.

A briefing for councillors and council officials at the Brunton Hall last Thursday heard that the plan would be presented to a meeting of East Lothian Council's cabinet.

The move attracted criticism from Councillor Stuart Currie who said none of the Musselburgh councillors were members of the cabinet and could not propose an amendment or change to the recommendation. He added that such a key document should go before the full council meeting in December.

Project manager Conor Price said: "We know we need some form of physical defences so we will come forward with a recommendation and the detail comes after that. November is key but it is not the end of the process. Cabinet gave us the authorisation to proceed previously and have instructed us to come back to them."

He stressed that the scheme would go on to be approved by the full council.

Last week, more than 250 people visited a two-day public exhibition on the scheme – 85 people who gave feedback were in favour of a flood protection scheme and five against. This followed a public exhibition in February, taking the total number of people consulted this year to 500.

The exhibition presented new flood maps and visitors were able to identify whether or not their properties are exposed to 'flood events'.

Modelling used looked at not only the main flood risks from the River Esk and the the Firth of Forth but also scenarios where a river flood event coincided with a high sea level.

Mr Price said they were now pushing forward to come up with a preferred scheme which would exceed the initial £8.9 million costing from 2016, with a financial split of 80 per cent from the Scottish Government and 20 per cent from East Lothian Council.

Fresh data showed the scale of the threat: 1,300 properties are potentially at risk from the River Esk flooding and 2,300 properties from a flood event from the sea.

Continued on Page 2

Man, 22, stabbed by well-dressed revellers

A MAN was stabbed after a row with a group of well-dressed men in Musselburgh in the early hours of Sunday.

The 22-year-old was attacked between 1am and 1.25am at Mall Avenue, near the town's Tesco Extra store, by men "all wearing formal dress" say police.

He suffered "a puncture wound" to his left arm, caused by an unknown weapon, following an "altercation", and was taken to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary by ambulance where he was treated and later discharged.

Detective Constable Craig Dilworth, from Dalkeith CID, said: "We are investigating after a disturbance in the Musselburgh area left a man with a serious injury to his arm. We are continuing with our enquiries to establish the full circumstances of this assault and anyone who was in the area and witnessed what happened should contact police immediately. Likewise, anyone who can help us identify the suspects should also come forward."

Anyone with information should contact Dalkeith CID on '101' quoting incident number 505 of August 4.

MUSSELBURGH RFC
Integrity Respect Inclusion
CLUB OPEN DAY & FAMILY DAY
SAT 10th AUG
from 1.30pm
Rain or Shine
FAMILY / KIDS Zone
GAMES ~ Balloon Modelling
TRY rugby at our taster sessions
Check out our function facilities for hire
v
MRFC V STEW MEL
Friendly KO 3pm
BBQ
SIGN UP for MEMBERSHIP
New members welcome
Our new VSN kit on display
FREE ENTRY. ALL WELCOME

COURIER

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Music teacher faces jail for fondling schoolgirls

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Wait over as county pupils find out how they fared in SQA exams Page 6

Please help my dad

Daughter's plea to help stricken dad in Thailand Page 12

Sport

Here comes the girls!

Golf stars flock to county for Scottish Ladies Open

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MUSSELBURGH

'Test my heart' session in tribute to Ben

Ben Forsyth with his family in 2013

By Avril Campbell
acampbell@eastlothiancourier.com

RUGBY players are taking part in a 'test my heart' session in memory of local cycling champion Ben Forsyth who died just over a year ago at the age of 20.

Prior to an open day and friendly match at Musselburgh Rugby Club this Saturday, they will attend the free and now fully booked 'Cardiac Risk in the Young' screening session offered at Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre for those aged 14 to 35.

Ben, a member of Edinburgh Road Club cycling club, was forced to give up the sport he loved in 2015 after being diagnosed with arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC) – a progressive and incurable disease of the heart.

A former Musselburgh Grammar School pupil and Edinburgh University geography student, he won the British Youth Circuit Race Championship in 2013 at Blackpool.

Although he did not play rugby at Musselburgh, he had many friends there.

Michael Maltman, 1st XV captain, said: "The family of Ben have done such amazing work to date in raising awareness of cardiac-related health issues amongst young adults.

"The ongoing fundraising by them has given us players at Musselburgh Rugby Club the opportunity to enrol for free heart screenings. The tragic circumstances of Ben's death gives you a different perspective on life.

"These screenings as a player and as a new father give me the peace of mind to go out on a Saturday and enjoy the physicality and intensity especially as Musselburgh enters into the Premiership for the coming season.

"It is through the hard work and determination of Ben's loved ones that we are fortunate to receive the cardiac screenings."

The Stoneyhill Farm Road-based club open its doors on Saturday to welcome the public, especially families and children at 1.30pm. A friendly match against Stewart's Melville take places at 3pm.

There will be a family kids' zone at the open day with party play activities run by East Lothian Play Association, balloon modelling, giant jenga and dominoes, and games. Youngsters are also able to sample free rugby taster sessions run by MRFC young section.

Jill Irving, club treasurer, said: "The club prides itself on being a community-based sports club, focusing on developing youth through the fun and discipline of rugby values."

To find out about heart testing go to *www.testmyheart.org.uk* and for more information on the club, visit *www.musselburghrfc.com*

Walls and embankment considered

Cont from front

There is a need to protect about 2,500 to 3,000 properties.

Any scheme must not impact on the historic Roman Bridge and Firth of Forth Special Protection Area, added Mr Price.

He said: "The project team are responsible for advancing East Lothian Council's commitment to protect the town but, ultimately, any scheme will belong to the people of the town and the project team are trying to design a scheme that will work for the town."

He stressed that the public would be consulted again next Easter/summer and the outline design completed, with scheme approval planned for the middle of 2021.

"We will then do the detailed design, procure a consultant and commence with construction in late 2022 running until late 2024, and we will follow that up with a one-year maintenance period, bringing the entire project to completion in 2025," he added.

Steven Vint, of consultants Jacobs, said feasible options included direct defences such as walls and embankments, looking at taking out weirs and bridges, modifying and raising them, or putting new ones back, and using pumping stations to take water out to sea.

Removing the centuries old mill lade, which runs from Eskmills through the town, or carrying out work to reduce its flood risk, installing flood gates and dredging, were other options being looked at.

Mr Vint added that they needed to take into account the environment and protected species such as the family of kingfishers who were breeding in the area.

He said there could be up to 2.3km of direct defences on the right bank of the River Esk and, on the left hand bank, there could be 1.3km of defences stretching from the Station Road/Olivebank bridge to the shore.

From the coastal perspective, there could be 1.9km of defences from the Brunstane Burn to the mouth of Esk.

He explained that the condition of the Scottish-Power sea wall at Musselburgh Lagoons was important to reduce the flood risk to the town and added that work needed to be done to increase the capacity of the Pinkie Burn culvert.

Mr Price said: "There are major engineering challenges ahead for the project team, however, the thoughts of the townsfolk relating to the river, its existing structures and their key role in providing a corridor through the town's heart which is simultaneously park, access, amenity and cultural heritage was clearly heard.

"The value of the Roman Bridge and the ability of people to access the water both resonated out as key points for consideration."

Councillor Norman Hampshire, cabinet member for environment, said: "I look forward to unveiling the preferred scheme in November and thereafter continuing the development of the scheme in partnership with the town through 2020 when we undertake the outline design.

"The fact that Musselburgh was flooded from a '1 in 200 Years Flood Event' in 1948 highlights the risk to the town and the reason that the council is advancing this major civil engineering project under the Scottish Government's Flood Protection Scheme Programme."

Musselburgh has a history of damaging floods from the River Esk: the last major flood, and inundation of the High Street, occurred in 1948.

There were also significant events in 1927 and 1891.

The scheme's new modelling has been able to determine that the major flooding in August 1948 was equivalent to a 1 in 200 Years Flood Event today (an event with an Annual Event Probability of 0.5 per cent).

In recent years, the combination of rising sea levels and changing weather patterns has suggested a possibly higher incidence of flooding events in future. All relevant scientific information on climate change has been considered by the project team, they say.

Main route into Honest Toun closed

A MAIN route into Musselburgh is closed for eight days to allow essential utility works to take place for a major new development at Old Craighall.

The B6415 from Monktonhall Place to Musselburgh Services closed from midnight on Monday until the end of August 13.

East Lothian Council said it has held extensive discussions with the contractor GTC, working on behalf of Persimmon Homes, to agree a 24-hour work programme that co-ordinates gas, and power works to minimise disruption in the area.

A council spokesperson said: "This closure is essential to put in place the utilities infrastructure required to support major new developments in the area.

"The contractor originally applied for a three-week closure period.

"However our priority is to minimise disruption to residents and drivers so we have negotiated a 24-hour work programme that co-ordinates utility services to ensure this work is completed quickly and ahead of the schools' returning."

Diversion signs will be in place. Following discussions, Prentice Coaches has confirmed that it will operate the 111 service as normal to Tesco, then operate via Eskview Terrace, Monktonhall Terrace, Mayfield Crescent, Stoneybank Crescent, Whitehill Farm Road, QMU, Clayknowes Road to Fort Kinnaird, the Wisp, and Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

The council will arrange a free shuttle bus from Old Craighall to the ERI along the 111 service route.

Passengers wanting to travel to Musselburgh from Old Craighall, Millerhill and Newton Village can use the shuttle service to the ERI and transfer to the 111 service ERI-Musselburgh. The shuttle bus will run as per the existing 111 timetable.

Further work is planned from the service area roundabout on the B6415 south west to the Midlothian boundary. Discussions are still ongoing with the contractor to agree traffic management for this section.

Planning permission in principle was granted for a mixed use development at Old Craighall including 1,500 homes, a primary school, business space, community facilities, public parks and playing fields, an innovation hub for business and for other employment land.

A separate application, for detailed planning permission for 370 houses and 103 flats on the Old Craighall site was also approved at the meeting of East Lothian Council's planning committee earlier this year.