

Whittlesey Washes

August 2013

South Barrier Bank works

Community drop-in event

24 September 2013, 11am – 7pm

Come along to Guyhirn Village Hall on Tuesday 24 September between 11am and 7pm and find out more about the South Barrier Bank works. We are holding a public drop-in event and everyone is welcome.

Members of the project team will be available to tell you about the project and answer your questions.

Progress

The access road at Goosetree is complete including bridges being lifted in to cross over the Counter Drain to the bank. The main work of strengthening the South Barrier Bank is underway, which involves reshaping the slope and placing extra material at the base of the bank. This work will continue for the next few months between Ring's End and Poplar House Farm.



Lifting the bridge into place over the Counter Drain.

Traffic management

Over the next few months, there will be a lot of lorry movements along the A605. Please be extra careful when using this stretch of road and be aware of lorries turning at the Goosetree access. The lay-by at Goosetree will remain closed for the duration of the Year One works.

Ring's End car park

Unfortunately, some members of the public are putting themselves at risk by entering our construction site. We have even had instances where sections of fence have been removed to gain entry to walk through the working area. This is extremely dangerous.

We understand these vital works may cause some inconvenience but we have closed off the car park and fenced off the working area for your safety and the safety of our workforce. Alternative parking is available – please follow the signs.

The public footpath along the bank can still be accessed and is clearly signposted. We have temporarily diverted part of the footpath from the top of the bank - where we are working - to its base. The work at Ring's End is due to be completed in November 2013. The footpath will be reinstated once it is safe to do so.

For your safety, we ask you to use the footpath diversion while work is taking place. We would also ask that parents do not allow their child to play on or near our site. For your pet's safety, please keep dogs on a lead.

Working with the local community

The Environment Agency is responsible for protecting and improving the environment in England. We also work with partners and communities to reduce the risk of flooding and to manage water resources.

Our principal contractor for this project is Interserve Construction Ltd. Interserve are based in the UK and has a workforce of more than 50,000 people worldwide who are employed locally to their projects. The Environment Agency and Interserve are keen to employ local subcontractors, therefore we have employed local haulier P.J Thory from Coates to carry out the earthworks, haulage and supply of material.

P.J. Thory was established in 1965 and has developed into one of the region's largest haulage and aggregate suppliers. All labour and groundwork staff live in the Whittlesey area.

Out and about

In July, North Level District Internal Drainage Board, one of our project partners, invited us to contribute to an annual industry exhibition, held by the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA). Displaying our project to share knowledge and innovation within the local industry proved successful with lots of interest shown including interest from the University of Leicester who are researching the historic fenland roddons which are dried raised beds of old rivers.



Thank you

We would like express our thanks to the community of Ring's End, Guyhirn and all landowners that may have been disrupted by construction works for your continued support.

How you can find out more

We have notice boards on the footpath next to the kissing gates at Ring's End and Poplar House Farm.

We have also been posting blogs on the *Shape Your Place* websites for Whittlesey, March and Wisbech.

You can also find more information on our website at: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/147518.aspx

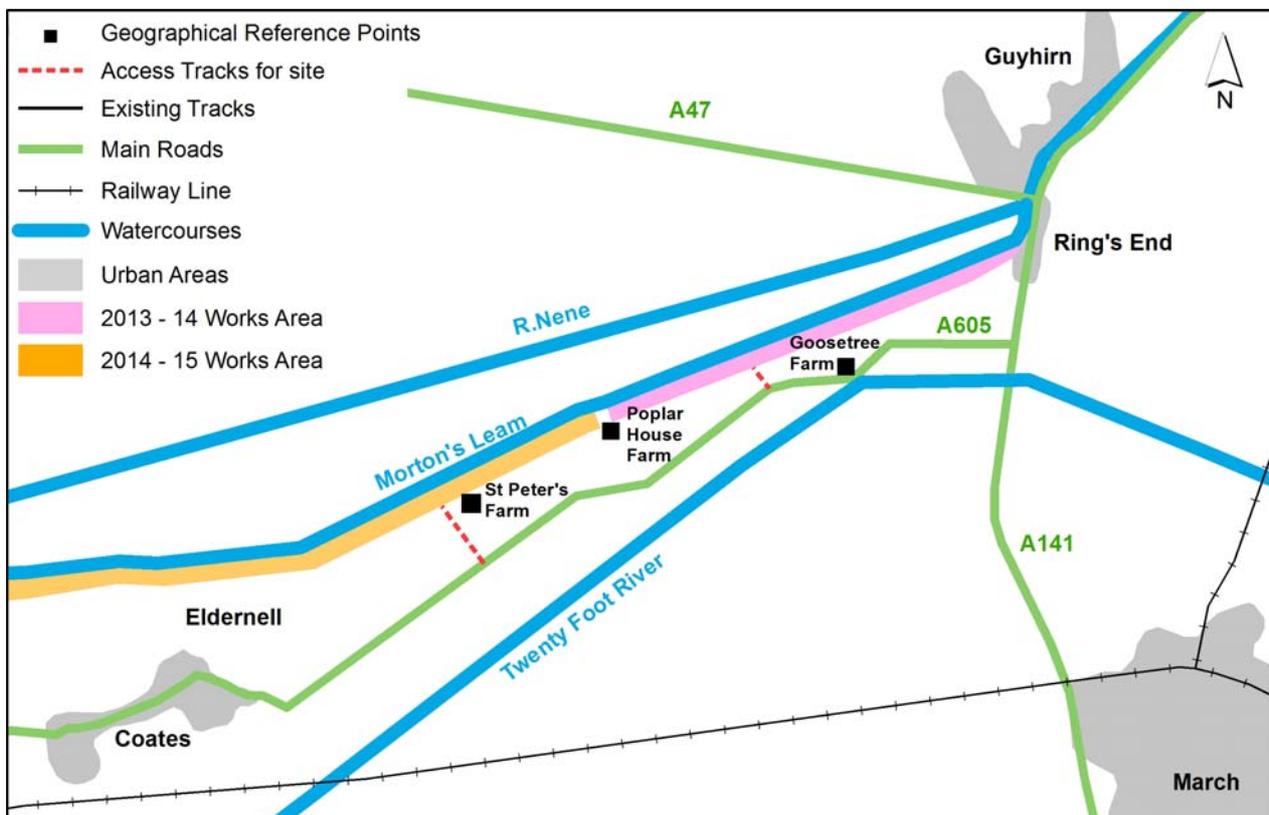
Our Public Liaison Officer

Our Public Liaison Officer, Monica Stonham, is available to help deal with any questions or problems which you may have regarding our work. Monica is also available to get involved in working with the community via schools and local organisations. If you have any, questions or comments, please contact her.

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www.environment-agency.gov.uk