

Shonks Mill Flood Storage Area

Ground Investigation Works

February 2016

What is the Shonks Mill Flood Storage Area?

We are in the initial stages of investigating the viability of a flood storage area (FSA) at Shonks Mill Bridge, one of the recommendations of the Roding Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMP), which we adopted in 2012. The FSA was proposed to reduce flood risk to properties in the lower Roding catchment.

We have identified an area at Shonks Mill Road where the FSA could be constructed. It would consist of an earth embankment approximately 700m long with a maximum height of 3.75m above ground level, constructed across the floodplain adjacent to Shonks Mill Road. This will include a flow control structure to control the flows allowed to pass downstream.

The FSA, is currently planned to hold water in a flood event with a 2% (1 in 50 years) or greater chance of occurring each year. Consequently, for the majority of the time, the land and river will be unaffected.

What stage is the project at now?

We need to investigate the proposed scheme in more detail to ensure we fully understand the effect the FSA would have.

The first stage of the investigation will be to carry out ground investigation work. Due to the wet ground condition, these proposed works would be divided into two phases and take place in March and April 2016 respectively. We will then follow this up with non-intrusive environmental surveys during the spring and summer months.

We are also currently developing detailed flood modelling so that we can identify the benefits of the scheme and the effects it would have on water levels both upstream and downstream. We expect this to be completed in summer 2016.

What will the process be for the remainder of the project?

Once the initial investigations are complete, we will undertake option appraisal and then outline design. We will work with the affected landowners and local community to ensure we address any concerns they may have and look to secure funding for the scheme..

Following this, we will produce detailed designs for the scheme and appoint a contractor to construct the FSA. We anticipate that work will begin in 2018, providing we have the necessary approvals and funding.

If you have any questions please contact us via email on

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