

From: [Barbara Elborn](#)
To: [John Scott](#)
Cc: [Jennifer Wilson](#); [Pauline Elliot](#); [Morrison, Duncan](#); [McAteer, Watson](#); [Cox, Jane](#); [Smart, Annette](#)
Subject: RE: [OFFICIAL] Community Council Briefing Note
Date: 15 September 2023 10:45:00

Hi John

Thank you for sharing. As agreed at the CC the note is forwarded to NDCT Trustees and will be reviewed in Trustees next meeting but issues remain to be concluded:

NDCT still seek written confirmation that the closure at the south end will NOT impact on any properties by its inclusion. I have requested this in writing from Duncan who is reviewing his files and will provide if able. He, like me does not accept that the gate will be easily removed if it needs to be, the speed and height of the 2020 flood would have risked life if any attempt to remove anything was undertaken on the banking. It is not something that NDCT are comfortable about agreeing to and I am sure the community resilience team and emergency teams will wish to have input into this. On that basis, assumptions need to be made that the barrier will remain in place until any waters have receded and it is safe to remove it.

NDCT will seek a license to be signed for granting permissions to use the riverside but takes no responsibility for the materials or build which will be at the owner's risk. The flood group was never formally constituted, who is taking responsibility for this? Duncan has confirmed SBC will take liability for the end of the bund but nothing else.

Duncan points out that significant investment is required by the householder to make the wall secure which will need to be at their expense; SBC, nor NDCT/CC has funds, or can access funds for repair to private property.

From the CC's perspective, the flood group will need to liaise with the Resilience group to ensure the wall placement does not obstruct procedures already agreed by them with the SBC emergency teams for community protocols governing what happens and by whom during a crisis. This is just a formality, but local protocols will need to be updated to reflect the walls existence and formalise relevant actions to enact it when needed. The shed which hosts the sandbags at Polysport for the south end residents could be considered as host for the gate making it accessible to the appropriate person, but this is the resilience shed, not ours to agree. Pauline is copied for you to liaise.

Cllrs are copied on this note as they were absent from Tuesday's meeting, they need to be aware that a number of issues need to be concluded before any application can be made to them for small schemes to cover costs. I will revert to all when we have any updates. Thank you

B

From: John Scott <scottglenleigh@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:54 PM
To: Barbara Elborn <barbara.elborn@newcastletoncommunitytrust.co.uk>
Cc: Jennifer Wilson <59jnwilson@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: [OFFICIAL] Community Council Briefing Note

Hi Barbara, agreed briefing note attached. Costs for bund end stub walls and steps (construction and Maintenance) are being met by SBC. Any maintenance of South Manse boundary wall would be met by the householder.

Duncan is to provide schematics of lightweight floodgate options e.g 8 feet, 10 feet and costs. The length of gate selected will determine the length of new wall to abut South Manse boundary wall. I will forwards schematics when received.

Next steps are to meet with SBC and contractor to consider construction costs of stubwalls /floodgate and maintenance requirements of South Manse wall at its juncture with floodgate wall. Duncan has some concerns about future liability if flood water causes damage to South Manse wall if it is not repaired/ maintained. Discussions will take place with the householder (James Lockerby) and will most likely result in a written agreement.

Flood group will discuss storage and deployment of any floodgate.

If the floodgate option is progressed ,costs (once determined) ,would be progressed by a small scheme's application.

At the North end of the bund, whilst I can't determine flood group decisions, I don't see the point in pursuing the demountables to the fence line until such time as SBC are in a position to consider additional defences when road repairs are required (as per briefing note). If the trustees require any further information please let me know for discussion by the flood group.

Thanks John

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Morrison, Duncan" <DMorrison@scotborders.gov.uk>
Date: 4 September 2023 at 13:13:50 BST
To: Scottglenleigh@aol.com
Cc: Jennifer Wilson <59jnwilson@gmail.com>
Subject: [OFFICIAL] Community Council Briefing Note

Hi John,

See below my changes in red. Hope it reads ok.

Thanks
Duncan

The community consultation in March 2022 regarding the proposed bund, whilst generally positive, raised concerns about the proposed height and length of the bund. As a consequence the bund height was raised from the original 300 mm to 500 mm. The length of the bund was restricted as any further extension would

involve SEPA and licensing implications (i.e proximity to the riverbank).

SBC, in response to community concerns, explored additional measures to extend the flood defences. It was determined that further extending defences to the North by 90 metres would improve the level of flood protection. **At the South of the bund, SBC explored using demountable barriers extending from the bund, behind the tennis courts, to the rear of the football field and terminating at higher ground on South Hermitage Street. However after assessing this proposal it was found that there was an increase in flood levels on Walter Street in particular.**

The majority of the bund was completed in September 2022 with only the end arrangements of the bund still to be completed by SBC. These were left by SBC until the flood group had assessed if they would like to carry any smaller localised flood measures. SBC have retained budget for this and will progress with constructing a low stub wall to the ends of the bund as per the design detailed in June 2022.

The Flood Group, as a result of the community feedback, and in conjunction with SBC, looked at possible measures to **further enhance flood defences on the riverside. At the North end of the bund the proposal is to deploy low level demountable barriers extending some 30 metres to the roadside fence line. SBC are currently monitoring potential riverbank erosion and road movement from Mid Liddel northwards. SBC have reported no immediate concerns but we have asked if any future works are required, that consideration be given to installing additional flood defence measures extending a further 60 metres thereby addressing the original community concerns.**

The Flood Group will discuss if the deployment of demountables up to the fence line is required at this time. SBC have stated that should demountables be required they have no budgetary provision for this, however 900mm HIGH demountables could be provided at no cost from Hawick. The provision of the additional flood defences outlined would not have a negative impact on existing flood defences.

As stated the large scale deployment of demountables at the south end was considered and rejected. As an alternative the provision of a floodgate was explored, from the bund end, extending across the footpath and grass verge and abutting the boundary wall of South Manse.

At a site meeting with SBC on 29/8 it was confirmed that SBC would arrange the construction of the bund end stub walls, costs and maintenance to be met by them. They would not finance additional work i.e floodgate and additional construction. **SBC did state the importance of maintenance works being carried out to the manse wall prior to any additional flood measures being implemented locally.**

It was agreed that SBC would;

1. Provide schematics of floodgate options with, hopefully, cost approximations
2. Ascertain if any modelling had previously been done indicating the potential “backflow” of water at high water levels, (bund not breached), if no

floodgate in place.

3. The provision of a floodgate would not negatively impact upon the current level of flood protection.

If approved, it is recommended that the bund end stub walls and installation of flood gate be carried out at the same time (same contractor). The additional costs to be met by way of small scheme application.

If approved, discussions with the owner of S. Manse, who has already given verbal agreement, be undertaken and if necessary written agreement obtained.

DUNCAN MORRISON
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