

**Broadland Flood Alleviation Project:  
Consultation for Compartment 19  
(Claxton Marshes)**

Report by Senior Waterways and Recreation Officer

**Summary:** This report provides members with a summary of BESL's consultation proposals for Compartment 19 (Claxton Marshes) on the true right bank of the River Yare between the Carleton Beck near the Beauchamp Arms public house and Langley Dyke. The report also outlines officers' response to the consultation upon which members comments are welcomed.

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 Compartment 19 is located on the true right bank of the River Yare between the Carleton Beck near the Beauchamp Arms public house and Langley Dyke. Land in the compartment is protected by 3.5km of earth floodbank defences. Erosion protection in the Compartment is provided by a reeded rond, sections of timber, steel and asbestos piling, rock rolls and gabion baskets.
- 1.2 The majority of the land in the Compartment is currently used as grazing marsh and is in the Broads Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) Scheme. The Compartment also contains Langley Abbey, Buckenham Sailing Club and the Beauchamp Arms public house.
- 1.3 Mooring takes place in the Compartment in Langley Dyke where there are private long stay moorings and on the River Yare near the Beauchamp Arms public house and Buckenham Sailing Club. In the adjacent flood defence compartment (Compartment 20) there is a Broads Authority 24-hour mooring at the head of Langley Dyke.
- 1.4 Recreational access is also important in this Compartment as the bank is used extensively by Great Yarmouth Angling Association who organise high profile angling matches along the bank during the fishing season.

## **2 Need for Flood Defence Improvements**

- 2.1 As in most Broadland Flood Defence compartments the effectiveness of the flood defences in Compartment 19 have reduced over time due to the combined effects of bank settlement and deterioration of piling. Some maintenance schemes were carried out in the Compartment between 2001 and 2010 which mainly involved the installation of erosion protection in the form of rock rolls (tube shaped net containers filled with rock) and alder pole piling to deal with scour pockets which threatened to undermine the

floodbank. Officers accept that there is now a need for a comprehensive scheme to deal with ongoing settlement of the banks.

### 3 BESL's proposals for Compartment 19

3.1 BESL's proposals for Compartment 19 are summarised in table 1 and shown in detail on the plan at appendix 1.

Table 1

Proposed Works	Length (m)
Strengthen floodbank	1386
Rollback floodbank	1490
Setback floodbank	713
Retain existing piling (private moorings)	644
Retain existing piling in the short term	351
Remove piling	334
Maintain existing erosion protection	58
Retain existing erosion protection	41

3.2 In the main BESL's proposals for Compartment 19 are to strengthen the existing floodwall. Officers consider that these works will have little or no effect on the navigation.

3.3 Floodbank setback and the eventual removal of steel sheet piling is proposed for the area immediately downstream of Langley Green pump. This area of piling is not used for mooring and is currently marked by BESL as a navigation hazard as it regularly overtops at high water. Officers accept that setback and piling removal is the most appropriate solution for this location and will discuss the potential for sediment reuse in the setback area with BESL.

3.4 BESL is proposing to retain some areas of piling which is used for private mooring at the request of the landowners. This responsibility for maintaining this piling will be passed to the landowners. Other piling, not used for mooring purposes, will be retained to provide continued erosion protection until it is removed during the maintenance period of the flood defence project which runs until 2021.

3.5 Officers will request that conditions requiring compliance with the agreed piling and erosion monitoring protocol and the installation of channel marking

prior to natural vegetation establishment are placed on any planning permission granted for the removal of piling in the compartment.

#### **4 Summary of the Broads Authority's Proposed Response to the Consultation**

- 4.1 Officers propose to focus on the opportunities provided by the proposed works for partnership projects which will bring added value to the flood defence works in the response to this consultation.
- 4.2 As mentioned at paragraph 3.3 above the area of proposed floodbank setback will potentially provide opportunities for sediment reuse for the Authority. Officers will therefore request discussions with BESL regarding the use of the proposed setback area for this purpose. Members will be aware that it has been possible to work with BESL in this regard in other compartments and this has allowed the Authority to help BESL by using sediment in the creation of rond areas that provide erosion protection for the new floodbanks.
- 4.3 Currently the crest of the floodbank in Compartment 19 is narrow and uneven in places and the floodbank strengthening works will provide an even wide crest which will benefit angling access. As the floodbank crest will be significantly improved as a result of the proposed works, officers consider that the possibility of diverting the route of the Wherryman's Way from the road to the floodbank should be raised in the consultation response. This is an objective in the Broads Rights of Way improvement Plan and some discussions have already taken place with some of the landowners in the compartment on this proposal.
- 4.4 In view of the importance of this reach for match angling, officers propose to raise the possibility of a partnership project involving the Environment Agency, Broads Authority and Great Yarmouth Angling Association to deliver angling enhancements as part of the flood defence scheme.

#### **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 Provided that the appropriate specifications are agreed for erosion protection, piling removal, erosion monitoring, channel marking and timing of works, officers consider that the flood defence works proposed in the consultation will have a limited effect on the navigation.
- 5.2 There are considerable opportunities presented by BESL's proposals for partnership working to provide access enhancements and the potential for using the proposed setback for dredging reuse is to be welcomed. Officers therefore consider that no objection should be raised to the flood defence works proposed in the consultation.

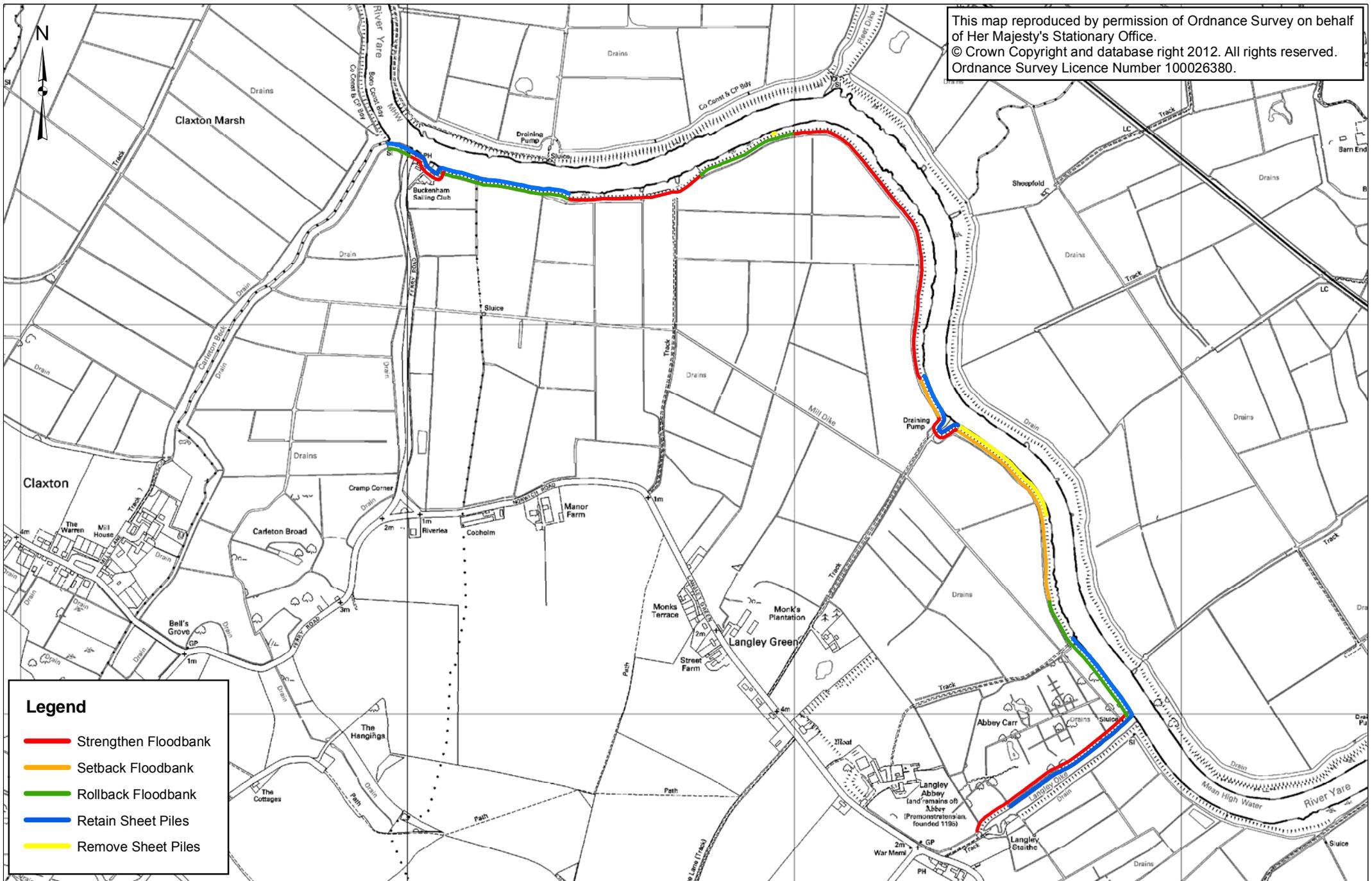
Background papers: Nil

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Broads Plan Objectives: CC3, CC3.1

Appendices: APPENDIX 1 – Compartment 19 consultation map.

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- Legend**
- Strengthen Floodbank
  - Setback Floodbank
  - Rollback Floodbank
  - Retain Sheet Piles
  - Remove Sheet Piles



**Flood Defence Proposals for Claxton Marshes (Compartment Number 19)**