



# Friends of Bradford's Becks

## Minutes of quarterly meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020

Item	ACTION
<p><b>Present:</b> Barney, Ed, Geoff, Kevin, Nick, Graham, Robert, James, Rose, David B, Hugh, Roger Wilkinson, Mike Thewlis, John, David P</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Irene, Rachel K, Rachel F, Elisabeth, Andrew, Wendy,</p>	
<p>1. "Bradford-Shipley Route Improvement". This is the scheme to make Canal Rd and Valley Rd into 4 lanes, and to renaturalise the Beck at the same time. Report on meetings with Bradford Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. As reported in T&amp;A and elsewhere, the outline business plan has been approved by WYCA, which holds the funds. Option 1 (4 lanes, but no new bridge over railway) is about on budget at ~£40M. Option 2 with a new bridge is about £20M more. Final designs due in Jan 2022, start work in 2023, completed by 2025.</li> <li>b. Both schemes have the same renaturalisation plans for the Beck, including removing the culvert on Valley Rd. The plans are still outline and in development.</li> <li>c. The plan is to fund the Beck work jointly between £1.5M from ESIF and £1.5M from the road funds. The ESIF timetable is shorter, completion and signoff of all the work by end 2021.</li> <li>d. Barney attended Council Exec on Tuesday 7th when they discussed the report. Careful to speak about the Beck plan and not the road. Reminded them of our 2012 Catchment Management Plan, pointed out the Beck failed under the WFD, spoke in favour of the renaturalisation, urged the designers to avoid too much hard landscaping. They responded warmly about all our efforts on the Becks to date.</li> <li>e. On 9<sup>th</sup>, Barney meet with Highways, Landscape, Drainage, Regeneration, Biodiversity to discuss in Beck plans in more details. Rachel Kipling and Claire Bithell of EA also attended in support. The main outcomes were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Ground investigations will begin soon – contaminated land issues will be key to the future design.</li> <li>ii. Set up the attendees as a peer review group so that we can comment on designs and progress.</li> <li>iii. Ensure that the consultant doing the detailed design has a geomorphologist involved.</li> <li>iv. Options for the cobbled weir at Skipton Properties will be developed in the design phase.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Barney</p>

<p>2. Renaturalisation project Aire - Briggate – update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. See plans from Bradford Council.</li> <li>b. From Jon Grey plans to start on the fish passage works, weather / level permitting with the help of Nick Milsom on Wed/Thurs next week. Barney to advise BBC in hope of getting some filing.</li> <li>c. Rachel and I have offered several times to organise some volunteer input to the planting scheme, but it just seems too difficult to tie anyone down to a task or a date.</li> </ul>	<p>Jon, Nick, Barney</p>
<p>3. Footpath signage and Information boards – update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. See <a href="https://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/18109411.signs-point-walkers-bradfords-becks-installed/">https://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/18109411.signs-point-walkers-bradfords-becks-installed/</a></li> <li>b. Thanks to Graham for organising the footpath signs.</li> <li>c. A couple of minor errors in positioning, Graham has asked for them to be corrected at our expense.</li> <li>d. Wendy has a final draft of a sign for the Greenway (near Briggate).</li> <li>e. Are we doing Beck naming signs – check with Wendy.</li> </ul>	<p>Graham Wendy</p>
<p>4. Pollution monitoring – update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Little Beck: 3 problems, 1) septic tank since 2011, 2) farmyard slurry from Milner Field farm, 3) still pollution from houses in Eldwick. EA aware of all.</li> <li>b. Carr Mires still has sewage from misconnections. YW know the source and are supposed to be sorting it.</li> <li>c. Barnsley Beck – need to get CCTV survey done, Barney to remind Stuart Pedlar at Council.</li> <li>d. Carr/Fagley Beck, - 4 building sites causing pollution. Seems to be no action by. EA. Barney to follow up with Rachel K.</li> <li>e. Hole Bottom Beck – risk of more sediment pollution if they start pumping again.</li> <li>f. Car wash at Cemetery Rd appears to be polluting Beck. New structure built (without planning permission?). Been reported to EA.</li> <li>g.</li> </ul>	<p>Barney Barney</p>
<p>5. Joint Pollution monitoring project with Yorkshire Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. YW have arranged a contractor to help us with setting up a GIS. Barney to meet with them.</li> <li>b. Abby, of ART, will help with preparing an app to upload data to the GIS.</li> </ul>	<p>Barney Abby</p>

<p>6. Enforcement Undertakings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Allerton Lane: Applebridge have submitted their offer, Keepmoat have not.</li> <li>b. Yorkshire Water: no further news, not clear if YW have actually submitted an EU to the EA yet. However, Geoff and Barney are intending to make them more aware of the opportunity to offer funds to ART/FOBB rather than YWT when it is river pollution offence.</li> </ul>	<p>Geoff</p>
<p>7. Stewardship days (litter picks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Agreed to have 3 Saturday mornings, Nick to pick dates</li> <li>b. 13<sup>th</sup> Feb Biosecurity workshop about risks of spreading invasive species – contact Nick for details.</li> </ul>	<p>Nick All</p>
<p>8. Education Project “Miss Connection” – Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Some interest from Addingham Primary, not finalised yet.</li> <li>b. A colleague at U of Sheffield is bidding for a project on education around SuDS for the home.</li> </ul>	
<p>9. Knotweed eradication -Nick and Wendy did several sessions last year and are having success. A volunteer did some good survey work, we can use more volunteers.</p>	<p>All</p>

<p>10. Any other business and news</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Barney presented to Addingham 4 Becks group, Wed 16th Oct. Good audience. They are doing pollution monitoring, especially using a simple field kit to measure E Coli concentrations; frighteningly high at times. They have also put signs up on all bridges to name their becks.</li> <li>b. Pitty Beck, from Andrew Mindham, Bradford Council: <i>“we are working with Active Bradford and the Lower Grange Community Centre to implement environmental improvements at Pitty Beck. The purpose of the scheme is to help people be more active and therefor healthier. Current ideas revolve around improving access, seating, habitat creation and interpretation. We may look to clear out the wetlands and establish a more manageable planting scheme there. The community group seem to be very active and keen to open up the site for use by the community”</i>. Barney to follow up.</li> <li>c. Barney meet with Ed Norfolk (Drainage) and a Senior Planner to discuss whether it is possible to use planning conditions to control sediment releases from construction sites. We looked at a condition that Kirklees use, and they will investigate. An alternative might be to include an “informative” which is an item that doesn’t set a condition but points out something the developer should be aware of.</li> <li>d. From Irene: 'Airey Tales' by Eddie which looks at the history of the Aire (with nods to Bfd Beck) is booked into Saltaire Festival in Sept. Possible opportunity for FOBB to have a table with information - and also if we tour it (which is the plan).</li> <li>e. Great Beck Birdwatch: Not much interest, agreed to drop the idea.</li> </ul>	Barney
<p>11. Minutes of last meeting agreed.</p>	
<p>12. Next meetings and events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Quarterly catch-ups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Apr</li> <li>ii. Mon 6<sup>th</sup> July. This would be AGM</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Other events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Shipley Men’s Forum, 12<sup>th</sup> Mar, 10-12</li> <li>ii. Heaton History Soc, 6<sup>th</sup> Apr 14:15-15:00 (St Barnabas Church Hall)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	B to book room