

KENTMERE PARISH MEETING

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL PARISH MEETING TO BE HELD AT 7.30 PM
ON TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2021 ON ZOOM.

AGENDA

1. Present and apologies
2. Declarations of interest
3. Discussion of the outline proposal to construct a dam at the south end of the tarn as part of the flood relief measures for Staveley, Burneside and Kendal.

Details of how to join the meeting will be emailed to all residents nearer the date. If you do not receive those by midday on 16 February 2021 please contact either Sheila Hirst (821985) or Peter Lansberry (821117).

As the need for procedures for Zoom meetings was not anticipated and are therefore not set out in the standing orders I should note that in the event of a formal vote only individuals who are included on the electoral roll for Kentmere parish are entitled to vote.

Introduction

Many of you will have noticed the surveyors working around the tarn and the adjoining land. As there has been no information or consultation with the Parish prior to their appearance this has caused considerable concern and raised many questions in the community.

This meeting has been called for the sole purpose of discussing what approach the Parish should take in view of the outline proposals made by the Environment Agency (EA) for the construction of an embankment and related controls at the south end of the tarn (Phase 3).

In summary there are many questions and no answers. I therefore propose that the Parish forms a group to represent the interests of the Parish and communicate with the EA and any other relevant organisations.

Background

It is appropriate to provide a very brief background to the idea of an embankment in Kentmere to give some context. There is information on the web at <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal/>

In December 2015 Storm Desmond caused widespread flooding around the Kent river system, and nearly 2,500 houses and businesses had water in their premises. As well as the obvious physical damage there is evidence of significant stress and similar issues in the aftermath.

The politicians required the EA to find a solution to this flooding risk, and the result was a proposal for a 3-phase scheme.

Phase 1 is the well-publicised scheme currently under way in Kendal.

Phase 2 Burneside/Kentrigg/Carus Green flood retention scheme.

Phase 3 Kentmere flood retention scheme. Progress has been much slower than expected. The EA has a draft outline of the scheme. There is considerable background work to be done before a formal proposal can be made after which there are requirements for public consultation. The EA have only just started site investigations in the valley. Without further information it is not possible to assess the impact on Kentmere.

Proposed group

This potential scheme has implications for all of us, but the most affected by the proposal as currently understood are the 4 landowners around the tarn. We have a range of expertise among the residents of the Parish and at this stage it is proposed that Robert Courtier and Richard Allen join the group. We will call on others' skills and knowledge when the need arises.

It is therefore proposed that the Parish approve the valley residents listed below to represent the Parish on the issues above.

Peter Lansberry – chairman – Kentmere Parish
Amy Harrison – landowner
George Hayton – landowner
Jim Sharp – landowner
Robert Courtier – civil engineer
Richard Allen – civil engineer

7 February 2021