

28 February 2019



The Resident

**Transport and Countryside**

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**Please ask for:** Stuart Clark

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**Scheme's Blog:**

<https://info.westberks.gov.uk/sethatchamfas>

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Dunston Park and South East Thatcham Flood Alleviation Scheme**

I am pleased to inform you that construction of the Dunston Park & South East Thatcham Flood Alleviation Schemes (FAS) will commence on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019. This follows a successful two-day drop-in session on the scheme to communicate about the scheme held on 22 and 23 November 2018 at the Thatcham Memorial Hall.

The proposed Dunston Park flood alleviation scheme involves the construction of a large flood storage basin (a dry reservoir), designed to protect homes in the north east area of Thatcham. However, there are several other flood routes to the south which may still leave parts of south east Thatcham vulnerable to flooding. Therefore, the South East Thatcham flood alleviation scheme has been designed to manage the remaining flow routes by constructing strategically located earth bunds (small embankments) and swales (shallow ditches) in Dunstan Green Park and the Kennet School playing fields, from where it will be directed into two basins located in the Siege Cross public park area. Once completed the schemes will provide the national standard level of protection against flood up to a 1 in 100 year storm event, plus a further twenty percent allowance for climate change.

In addition, improvements will be made at the southern end of Harts Hill Road to divert water from the road into the Dunstan Green area where it will be temporarily stored before slowly draining into an underground sewer.

The construction work will be undertaken by Jackson Civil Engineering and is due to be completed by early December 2019. The work will be supervised by West Berkshire Council. Normal working hours will be Monday to Friday, from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.

In order to ensure a safe working environment the following planned measures will be applied for:

**Dunston Park FAS**

- Use of temporary traffic lights on Floral Way while working on and near the carriageway.
- Diversion of Public Rights of Way from 18 March 2019 to early December 2019.

**South East Thatcham FAS**

- Closure of the Harts Hill Road in September and October 2019.
- Closure of the Dunstan Green Park (north): August to early December 2019.
- Closure of the Dunstan Green Park (south), including car parking: May to August 2019.
- Closure of the Siege Cross Playing Field: April to December 2019.
- Closure Francis Baily and Kennet School Playing Field: July to early September 2019.

For up-to-date information, please visit <https://roadworks.org/> on traffic restrictions and <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/sethatchamfas>.

We are very much looking forward to delivering these important flood defence schemes for Thatcham. We will do our best to ensure that the work causes as little inconvenience to you as possible.

The project team would kindly request that for the duration of the construction work, children are discouraged from playing near the site. Construction sites can be dangerous, particularly to children.

If you have any questions about the work or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the phone number and email address above.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

**Stuart Clark**  
Principal Engineer  
Transport and Countryside