



Isle of Man Government

Reiltys Ellan Vannin

December 2021 Laxey flood alleviation scheme newsletter. Season's greeting to all residents and businesses in Laxey. As well as wishing you all a Merry Christmas we thought a final newsletter of the year, to keep you up to date with what has been completed so far and what is happening over the holiday period.

Glen Road

We have seen the first section and most important work completed along Glen Rd. from the Woollen Mills to Victoria Terrace. The work was completed with the new re-enforced concrete river wall and by removing the berm at Swales Bridge and the weir, replacing these two areas with rock armour and the new rock ramp. At the time of completion the grade of stone programmed to be installed was not available from the quarry, and our intention was to return at a later date to install. This was brought forward by severe weather and emergency access was granted, for us to return to the river and install the larger rock armour. The work was completed in a few days and we thank residents for their understanding and patience.

Our intention is to return next year and continue working in the river between May and October so not to impact fish spawning. Work will continue with the river wall where required from Victoria Terrace towards Swales Bridge. Landside work in and around the tennis courts will also be started in 2022 and we plan to complete the wall along the Shore Hotel side of the river during 2022.

Minorca Hill

At the beginning of November work started at the bottom of Minorca Hill, excavations have been made to allow Manx Utilities and Manx Gas to move and upgrade services, making room for the new 600mm surface water drain to be installed. Installing the pipe along with new upgraded drainage gullies will start in the New Year following a site shut down over the Christmas period. The contractors have put down a temporary surface allowing full access to Minorca Hill; the road is now fully open and will remain open until Tuesday 4 January 2022. Contractors Paul Carey & Sons, with the help from Manx Utilities and Manx Gas, have made excellent progress and are working towards completion in April.

Quarry Road

As part of the surface water drainage programme we identified key areas where culverts and drains are either collapsed or no longer able to cope with the amount of water. This has been apparent in Quarry Road for some time. The Department have now redesigned the way surface water will be

removed from the road and diverted downstream to an existing culvert. This work requires a new 450mm pipe to be laid along the side of Laxey School up towards the main entrance on Quarry Road. A larger storm gully will be installed to stop water pooling and allow excessive surface water to drain away more quickly. This will also work in conjunction with additional gullies in the road linking to the main surface water drain in Minorca Hill.

It's hoped work will start early in the New Year, once we have a schedule of works confirmed we will visit all properties along Quarry Road to explain the programme. Vehicle access will be unavoidably disrupted for a short period while work to install the drain from the school entrance to Minorca Hill is completed. The Department will be speaking to all relevant bodies, including emergency services, prior to any work starting.

Additional Work

Design and planning is in progress to tackle other areas of work throughout the Laxey catchment area, including along the Ballaragh and Ramsey Road and Minorca Vale, Balldhoon, Snaefell Railway and Rencell areas. There remains a significant amount of work to improve both the surface water and fluvial network in the Laxey area. A detailed programme is currently being put together to deliver the necessary work in the most efficient and least disruptive way. We will share these plans in the New Year.

Our maintenance teams are actively addressing areas of concern and we remind residents, who identify any issues to please contact ourselves or the commissioners, so they may be investigated as soon as possible. Andrew Smith MHK met with officers from the Department and identified several issues along the Ballaragh Road which we plan to address. Mr Smith also requested several gullies to be cleared and cleaned before further bad weather comes our way.

The Department will continue to update the commissioners on a regular basis and once we have more information further newsletters will be published.

There will be further disruption in the coming years and your continued support is appreciated. Please be assured our goal to make Laxey a safer place to live is high on the Departments agenda.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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For further information please visit www.floodhub.im

IOM Flood Hub Team Tel: 01624 850000

24hr Emergency Tel: 01624 672000

