



Hail Weston Parish Council

September 2009 Newsletter

Hail Weston Ford: Water Under The Bridge

When, How and Why Hail Weston Ford is closed.

Background.

Following heavy rainfall the River Kym experiences high water levels, leading to flooding at the ford between Hail Weston and the AI at Little Paxton. Following enquiries to the Environment Agency about the open/closed status of the ford, we would like to explain the circumstances which lead to the road being closed by Cambridgeshire County Council Highways.

When the ford is closed. As water levels rise on the River Kym a predetermined threshold level is reached which indicates that Highways will close the road. Table 1 shows the number of times the Hail Weston ford operational alarm has been issued to Highways since 2001.

How the ford is closed.

Water levels are analysed by Environment Agency duty staff. As water levels reach the threshold level, the decision is made whether to issue the operational alarm, based on actual and forecast conditions. When the alarm is issued, Highways are contacted, who then close the road using their barriers/gates. Details of when the Environment Agency have issued the operational alarm to Highways can be accessed via Floodline (0845 9881188-Quickdial code 03362).

As water levels recede and are forecast to remain below the threshold level, Highways are contacted, visit the ford and decide whether the ford should be opened. This includes an inspection to ensure there is no detritus on the carriageway.

Why the ford is closed.

The ford at Hail Weston is closed in order to stop accidents, particularly vehicles being stranded and lives put at risk. Although this can cause inconvenience to

Hail Weston Ford



travellers on the road, a precautionary approach is needed to stop such serious accidents happening.

Acknowledgement.

Published with kind permission of the Environment Agency, with particular thanks to Simon A Foulds, Flood Incidents, Bromholme Lane, Brampton.

Don't forget we have our own website—visit our website at:

www.hailweston.org.uk

HAIL WESTON
PARISH COUNCIL

Table 1: Monthly and annual totals of Hail Weston operational alarm being issued.††

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2001	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	8
2002	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	12
2003	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6
2004	2	0	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	2	14
2005	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	8
2006	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	6	16
2007	0	1	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	2	11
2008	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	2	0	12
Total	9	11	8	4	6	3	3	2	2	11	13	15	87

92 % Support Playing Field Improvements



Phone: 01480-473134

E-mail:
contactus@
hailweston.org.uk

www.hailweston.org.uk

**HAIL WESTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

A great deal of work has gone on behind the scenes since the first Playing Field consultation held in the Royal Oak during January. The Parish Council has set up a project team consisting of three Parish Councillors and a number of residents who indicated they would be keen to support the initiative.

The team has taken the feedback from the initial consultation and developed a set of proposals which as far as is possible reflected the wishes expressed in January.

The plan includes a play fort and zip wire, a trim trail and a wide range of other features. We aim to secure the vast majority of the required finance from various funding agencies and hope to benefit from some local

fund raising as well.

Applications to funding agencies involve a lot of work. Apart from completing very detailed questionnaires, the project team assembled supporting documents in addition to drawing up plans and selecting specific pieces of equipment from the very wide range available.

In order to ascertain the views of villagers about these far more specific proposals we held a further consultation in the village hall on Wednesday 24th July. Over sixty five people visited the event which ran for three hours.

Overall 92% expressed support for the proposals with the remainder partially in favour. As you would expect we received

plenty of feedback and some very strong views from younger villagers who were keen to see mud ramps and also a wall with a hard standing area for ball sports.

The project team has taken account of all opinions expressed and is adapting the plan to reflect the views expressed. The final plan is at the time of writing due to be displayed at the Village Fete on 12th September.

If you would like to see the detailed analysis of the feedback received at the July Consultation please visit our website to see the full report.

Nick Farnden

Hail Weston Parish Council Contact Details

NICK FARNDEN (CHAIRMAN)
117 High St
(01480 212851)

BARRY EASOM
6 Barker Close
(01480 217034)

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
JONATHAN GRAY
Shufflewick Cottage,
Station Row,
Tilbrook
PE28 0JY
(01480 861941)

IAN WILKIE (VICE-CHAIRMAN)
The Old Post Office, 36 High Street
(01480 472965)

MATT FRANK
Furzeholme Cottage, 38 High Street
(01480 217913)

SHEILA BUCHANAN
34 High Street
(01480 210366)

DI SALTER
111 High Street
(01480 475153)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR
PETER DOWNES
42 Huntingdon Road,
Brampton
PE28 4PA
(01480 398082)

PETER CHANDLER
Georgina Villa, 29 High Street
(01480 212110)

SHEILA PENTON (PARISH CLERK)
32 High Street, Southoe, PE19 5YE
(01480 473134)

www.hailweston.org.uk