

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd

Subject Reduce height of Ebridge spillway/examine breaches above Ebridge Lock

Date 3rd April 2018

The Plan

To reduce risk of canal bank breaching the proposal was to reduce the height of spillway by one or two bricks (100mm say using hand tools to remove the bricks and remove.

Breaches above the lock/spillway to be examined and method of repair agreed

Work Achievement

There were eight volunteers in total, all with previous experience of working on the canal and at this location. There no additional risks to consider. The weather was fine throughout.

The paddle was used to reduce the water level prior to work commencing and this had been done on previous days to try to limit any damage to the banks.

The top level of bricks (placed there by the WRGies last summer using mortar that had lime in it) was quickly removed. The paddle was closed and the water flowed over the spillway (and still over the lock).



One layers of bricks removed

The level of the water in the canal was observed above Ebridge, specifically where water was flowing through the banks. The water was very close to the top of the bank, (in some cases no more than 0.1m) so it was decided to remove some or all of the next layer of bricks on the spillway.

This proved considerably more difficult with hand tools as there was more cement based mortar over some of the length of the spillway. The layer was only partly removed when work ceased at 1300hrs but it was believed would provide some control of the level unless there was significant rainfall.

In co-operation with the East Anglian Waterways Association Ltd



2nd layer partially removed – flow over spillway the following day

GP would continue to monitor the level of the water until the Sunday work party could complete the removal of the second row of bricks. A further assessment can be made at that time. Better power tools would make this task easier (eg a Kango hammer or similar).



Flow over lock the following day

The bricks removed were left in the vicinity of the spillway pending the further work on Sunday

Chris Heath, work party leader