

As most of you will already know, the Aire and Calder Canal bank was breached last Sunday allowing a considerable amount of water to escape at the rear of East Cowick. This water has followed a natural course along the side of the M62 Motorway in the direction of Pollington. The water is presently about 250yards away from Long Lane and getting very close to Crowcroft Lane near the Canal. I have been liaising with the authorities since Sunday Evening and monitoring the water levels on a daily basis. The present situation is that the Helicopter is working for the second day and has almost completed the repairs to the bank at Cowick. There is still a small amount of leakage, but it is unlikely to have any adverse effect on our village. The water level may rise a little more today and come across Crow Croft Lane and eventually drain naturally into the canal dyke. With the reduced water level in the Canal, there is expected to be some slippage of the banking due to the lack of water pressure. This is what has happened to the north side of the canal 300yards East of Crowcroft Bridge, which has been subsiding for some time. Although the large rocks are visible at the sides of the canal, these are not part of the canal collapsing in on itself, but rocks that are always there to assist deer to get out of the canal. Please take care if walking on the Canal Bank! I am reliably informed that Pollington Village is not at any risk and after today we should see the flood water gradually recede. There is no need for anyone to be alarmed or have any concerns, everything is under control with the Rivers and Canals Trust, Environment Agency and East Riding of Yorkshire Council who are working together to resolve the current problems. I am very grateful to East Riding of Yorkshire Council for keeping me updated and reassuring us that we are safe at Pollington.

There is no reason why we can't continue our preparations for Christmas, albeit somewhat restricted this year! However, Stay safe and I wish you all a Happy Christmas!

Ken Wilson

Pollington Parish Council.

The following message is from Alan Bravey, Emergency Planning Manager, Humber Emergency Planning Service (tel 07932 016856) -

The ERYC and its partners are continuing operations to repair the breach in the Aire & Calder Navigation. Good progress is being made on this and pumping operations are also ongoing. The risk of flooding to local communities remains low. The Canal & River Trust has provided the following update: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/news/an-update-on-the-aire-and-calder-navigation-breach> On behalf of all of our teams on the ground, thank you for your continued support. We will have a presence on site for as long as we are needed.