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Last month, Storm Christoph passed through the county and saw the County Council and its partners working together to prepare for and respond to the impacts of the storm.

A multi-agency response was co-ordinated to prepare communities for potential flooding and support and assistance was offered to residents, especially the clinically vulnerable.

Over 4,000 sandbags were deployed by Via across the County and numerous roads were closed.

However, in Southwell the storm gave assurance that the flood alleviation measures in place to date are working as designed, while further local drainage improvements to help the flow of surface water reach the drainage network continue to take shape.

Works on Church Street, in the region of Commissioner’s Bridge, are due to be completed by the middle of February. This includes the installation of new gullies which will help water to flow into new pipes and discharge into the dyke. Modifications will also be made to the existing bridge parapet, which will help surface water flow into the dyke at times when the water level is high.

When these works are complete, focus will then turn to Lower Kirklington Road, near the bottom of the Rope Walk. Work will be carried out to improve the transport of surface water off the highway into the Dumble and away to the Greet rather than flooding the road or nearby properties.

The non-intrusive Ground-Penetration Radar (GPR) survey has now been undertaken at the Potwell Dyke site to establish if there are any further buried archaeological artefacts. The results will be used to help inform the design of the proposed flood water store which will then be shared with residents. Hopefully, subject to planning approval, work will be able to start in the Summer.

As spring approaches, landscaping works will be taking place along Southwell Trail. This will see the planting of four new large field maple trees to give immediate impact and over 40 more trees and shrubs comprising alder, hawthorn and willow in mixed groups

The disturbed ground will then be seeded with a wildflower grass mix chosen to replicate the species that would typically grow locally in clay land meadows.

Latest updates on all the works in Southwell, along with some Frequently Asked Questions can now be found at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/southwellflooding