



**Environment Agency (EA) Flood Defence. Access to the Brunel Slipway and Brunel Tower Dinghy Storage Facilities** 

As you will be aware the EA are carrying out works to prevent the flooding of Starcross in the years to come. To do this they are raising the height of our main car park and doing some work on the slipway that should make life a bit easier for our members to launch and recover as well as prevent the tide from breaching the car park.

Unfortunately the work is over running and currently the contractors have now confirmed that the work in the main car park will not be completed by the end of March. After a series of meetings with the contractors they have agreed to concentrate their immediate efforts at the slipway end of the car park. This will provide us with limited access to the slipway and the main store. Weekend access has been agreed on the basis that they will suspend their works over the weekends until the project is completed. This may involve the use of some temporary ramps occasionally, and I would ask all members to take extra care when using the areas affected.

You will be able to get your dinghy into the club but please do not park in the club house car park, you will see that the area we have is very small. I would ask that you drop your dinghy and gear off at the club and park your car in the Regent House car park leaving the space in the club house car park for others to do the same.

From Monday to Friday the contractors may be working, and I would request all members to again avoid using the car park during these days, unless they are "dropping off" items. In this instance please co-operate with any reasonable request made by the contractors.

If you would like to take advantage of the pontoon landing stage in the interim, please contact the Boatswain, or Rear Commodore, as they may be able to arrange for some temporary storage on Ashes Quay until the slip way and car park become more accessible.

My thanks to the Waterside Team for their response to this situation. We are all affected by this work, and by working together we will be able to keep going, albeit on a reduced operational level.

Mark Hutchinson SFCC Commodore.