

Flood Risk, Drainage, Hydrology and Water Quality Situation Report July 2026

Land South of Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth HD8 8NN

Cumberworth Environmental Community Action Group

July 2026

This document aims to provide the Local Planning Authority with an update of the hydrological conditions currently being encountered within Stephen Wood, the ancient woodland adjacent to the proposed development site at Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth, Huddersfield, HD8 8NN. Kirklees planning reference number 2025/60/93572/E.

This document is intended to supplement the previously issued Flood Risk, Drainage, Hydrology and Water Quality Statement dated February 2026.

The following images taken in July 26 are typical of the hydrological scenario within Stephen Woods in the summer months.

Park Dike has remained dry for a number of weeks, however the springs within the ancient woodland continue to provide enough water to ensure the trees survive the dry months. The flows are minimal, yet crucial for the woodlands continued survival. Any disturbance to the current hydrological routine could be deleterious and may critically affect the health of the ancient woodland.

The photographs show the confluence of the spring fed tributary with the intermittent Park Dike. The flows within the watercourse at the proposed point of discharge are minor and typical of a highly sensitive water environment.

In the summer months, if the development was to be constructed as proposed, the drainage outfall may discharge polluted flows (car wash runoff, patio cleaning agents, herbicides etc) without any dilution from rainfall runoff or in channel flows. This scenario would cause catastrophic effects to the downstream water quality.

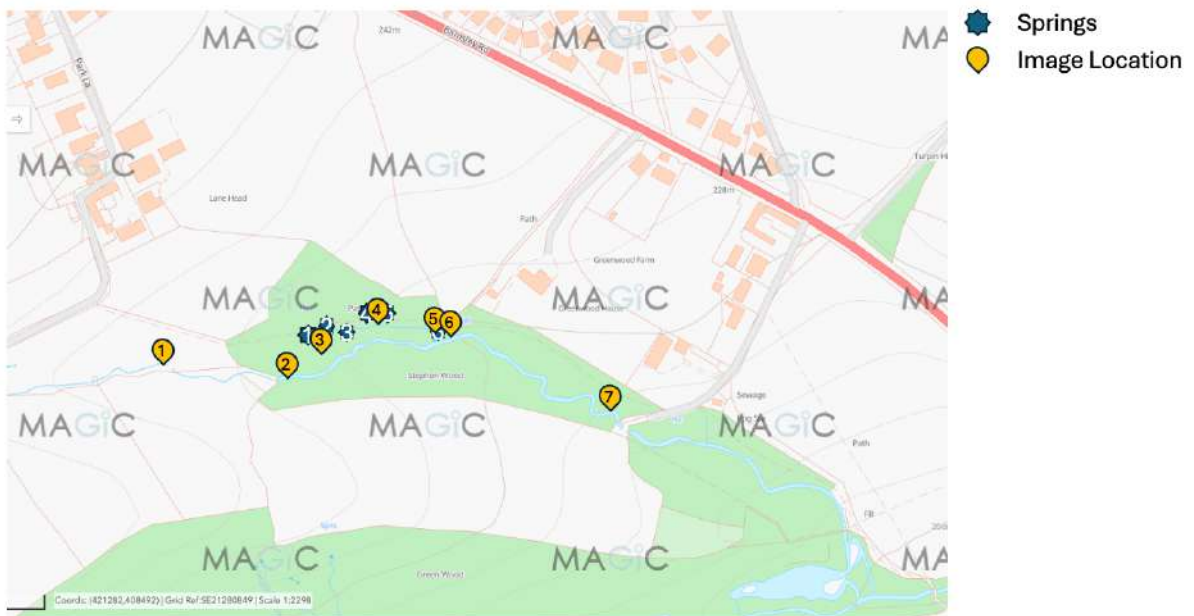


Figure 1 – Approximate spring and Image Locations

Photographs



Image 1 – Park Dike upstream – dry



Image 2 – Park Dike – Dry until the confluence with the spring fed tributary downstream



Image 3 – Minor flows emanating from Springs 1 and 2 whilst Park Dike to the south remains dry



Image 4 – Minor flows within the spring fed tributary



Image 5 – Wood Spring – Dry



Image 6 – The confluence with Park Dike – Park Dike on the left remains dry whilst the spring fed tributary on the right feeds the watercourse downstream



Image 7 – Minor flows downstream

