Mill Beck: a lesson in Reservoir Safety works aligned with public engagement and a participatory design process

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SYNOPSIS Following a review by the Environment Agency, a disused railway embankment structure has been designated a category A large raised reservoir. A spillway is now required capable of safely passing the Probable Maximum Flood. This will be a substantial structure 100 metres long and 60 metres wide. In initial consultations the local community challenged the need for the scheme. The project team therefore engaged with landscape planners and architects to develop an integrated design in close consultation with local people.