

Notes from the Operational Flood Working Group held virtually on 21st April 2021

Danny Everett	Wiltshire Council
Mike Hewitt	Cllr for Bourne & Woodford Valley
Frank Freeman	Hindon
Chris Sankey	Pitton & Farley
Michael Holm	Environment Agency
Howard Goff	Dauntsey
Renate Malton	Wiltshire Council
Michael Holm	Environment Agency
Apologies	Stuart Mariner

Parish update

Hindon – Frank reporting he had been contacted by Bridget Wayman re some drain clearance, no issues aside from a couple of blocked drains. No groundwater flooding occurred and neither did any springs appear. To date the work undertaken by Danny has not been tested.

Pitton – managed to survive the winter without any flooding despite an alert being issued and none of the sewers were impacted.

Still haven't received the report on lower cost solutions from the Environment Agency which was expected earlier this year. They have chased but to date no response ?? has promised to chase this up.

An application for residential development outside of the settlement is being looked at to enable affordable housing. This raises concerns of increasing the flood risk for the community. Danny to follow up.

Wilton – Planning application for residential property up by the river, although picked up by the team it went through. Mike tried to stop the application as he is aware the water has flooded nearby. EA did comment – the new modelling seems to indicate it is okay but they have consent so there is nothing we can do.

Environment Agency

Mike has taken over Carries role whilst she is on maternity leave.

Salisbury the funding letter for the scheme came through so it will be out for consultation and fairly optimistic. Project team is keeping him informed. Investigations are ongoing on the culverts around Waitrose, generally the scheme is moving forward.

Wessex Water

Most of the updates is for the north.

Received lots of enquiries re the Beanacre 1st time sewerage scheme, and hopefully looking to connect sometime in 2024 or sooner. The parish council wanted to know if a prospective development on the outskirts of Melksham just down the road would speed this up? Advised it would not. Will keep parish council updated.

Drainage update

Danny advised that the budget has been slashed and we cannot undertake the CCTV in front of major maintenance, we still have 2 posts vacant. The reduction in budget will impact on the routine and emergency work of the drainage team, particularly as part of the budget will need to be held back in case of flooding later in the year.

Funding bid –we were unsuccessful in our bid for the innovation fund and awaiting feedback on what was thought to be a strong application.