

**Draft Notes from the Operational Flood Working Group South  
virtual meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**

Andrew Davis	Cllr Warminster East & Chair
Bill Parks	Warminster rural north
Stuart Mariner	Pitton & Farley
Cllr Fraser	Amesbury
Chris Sankey	Pitton & Farley
Caroline	
Bridget Wayman	Nadder Valley
Steve Malpass	Environment Agency
Sandra Harry/Tim	Tisbury
Rhiann Sturgenor	Stonehenge Luggershall Tidworth
David Button	Highway Engineer
Nic Puntis	Portfolio Holder Flooding
Dale Strachan	
Len Turner	Warminster
Anthony Hovelt-Brown	Wilton
Mike Ash	Bishopstone
James Hardy	Berwick St
Danny Everett	Principal Drainage Engineer
Richard Williams	Drainage Engineer
Charles McGrath	Salisbury
Tom	
Lin Walker	Donhead St Mary
Kate Clutterbuck	Sutton Mandeville

### **Agency Update**

#### Environment Agency

- Impact of storms Dennis & Eunnis impacted more on coastal areas although strong winds inland caused damage, but no serious flooding was reported.

#### Wessex Water

- Not impacted by the storms, continuing working on their Waste Water Management Plans

#### Wiltshire Council Highways

- Some 890 contacts received concerned with tree damage, work is still continuing on the clear up. Many of the verges have serious amounts of dead waste accumulated needing to be removed. All other work has taken a back burner as all the teams are working hard to clear and remove storm damage.

## National Highways

- Warminster balancing ponds – received the information from Highways England re the ponds which was helpful and looking to Wessex Water about the infrastructure they have around the ponds.
- A36 running through Wilton remains an issue. Lot of through traffic causing debris which blocks the drains causing flooding after little rain. Pedestrians under threat of “drenching” by passing traffic. Wiltshire Council and its term contractors are not able to assist this includes litter picking. – National Highways have passed this onto the appropriate teams

## Segehill & Semley

- Ponding on Station Road, Dave advised he will go through their concerns with them outside of this meeting. A local landowner is preventing the council from taking water off the road. A joined-up approach is needed.
- Disappointed that no-one from the parish attended which would have enabled a discussion around the issues affecting the parish.

## Donhead St Mary

- Conversation with elected members. The watercourses are on private land and require attention, Highways is aware of the issues. A discussion between Nick/David & Parish council to be arranged

## **Town & Parish update**

### Pitton & Farley

- Still awaiting a response from the EA regarding suggestions for marginal schemes at lesser cost to improve the flood resilience of the community. 6 months have passed and still no response from the EA and the parish is currently drafting a letter to their MP.

### East Knoyle

- Following flooding in October the council cleared all the gullies and water is now flowing as it should. Concerns about water running of one of the fields onto the road, concerned the landowner on the east side keeps their culvert clear. Concerned raised about reporting issues on the MyWilts app which keeps coming back with case closed.
- Dave advised that requests are looked at by technical officers and based on our criteria, which is high speed road and internal property flooding, if it doesn't meet the criteria it is closed as there is no budget available. Dave advised he is able to pull in the tanker if the criteria apply. There are also issues with the full notes not getting back to the customer, this is being worked on.

### Sutton Mandeville

- Currently have no flood/emergency plans requesting information.

## Lin Walker

- Also advised issues with MyWilts. The C295 has gravel being washed onto the surface causing cars to swerve to avoid it, it is running on an adjacent field. A channel has been dug close to trees, and there are concerns that this impacted onto tree roots causing it to lean.
- David advised that he was aware of the gravel which may be difficult to remove as it is on private land, however he has a job organised with a digger to clear a ditch and will take the opportunity to scrape it off at Dennis Lane

## Bishopstone

- No flooding/drainage issues.
- Their emergency planning team were deployed following the storms and removed trees locally.

## Tisbury

- Many thanks to Dave Button for help with the Old Mill House, digging out gullies and Mike Holm has been in touch with residents who flooded. The Nadder Sports Centre lost part of its roof, luckily no flooding.
- There appears to be a new group called Speed & Flood working group not sure where this has come from? Danny, Nic not aware of this group, advised if a member has issues they should contact them.

## Warminster

- Grovelands - planning application wish to build 100 houses in Flood Zone 3. Danny has passed this to Atkins to investigate and ask for an update. Stella not in this week. Len thanked the EA for their robust comments and recommendation that a recent planning application be refused. He hopes this will be supported by Wiltshire Council. Steve advised that if their comments are not followed up the EA can call it in to the Minister.
- Bill advised that several outlying parishes are not engaging despite their flood risk. All have issues with blocked gullies. Thanks to David and Rhianne for their assistance. Is concerned that no-one from the western and south western are being represented by highways. Dave advised that he is representing Highways and will ensure messages are passed on. Renate to contact parishes to encourage them to engage.
- Danny advised that if any planning applications come in with concerns on building in flood zones to let him know.

## Ansty

- Very few flooding problems,
- Dave did a fantastic job by Frog Pond which has gone a long way to alleviating flooding.

## Salisbury

- Concerns have been raised by the public regarding the number of trees being taken down at River Park. There needs to be improved communications as to why this is happening.
- There appears to be a fair amount of detritus in the river – Steve to follow this up.
- Nic, Mark Read and Charles met to discuss updating the flood plan and to consider what resources they have. Mark has been tasked with updating the plan and Renate requested she is kept informed and up to date.

## A.O.B

- Invitation extended to the Rivers Trust to attend one of our meetings.
- Dorset Prepared 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March lots of online content for flood wardens, town and parish councils
- Section 19 investigations – these take time as information needs to be gathered and collated from a number of sources.
- Please advise Renate if there are any changes to your contacts for your community both for our invite lists and the contact list we have for towns and parishes.