

**Notes of the Operational Flood Working Group Meeting South  
Virtual Meeting - April 2022**

|                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Andrew Davis     | Chair                   |
| Tim Culver James | Tisbury                 |
| Jim Oliver       | Aldbourne               |
| Claire Wilkinson | Gt Bedwyn               |
| Sandra Harry     | Tisbury                 |
| Annie Child      | Salisbury               |
| Charles McGrath  | Salisbury               |
| Matt Perrott     | Wiltshire Council       |
| Chris Sankey     | Pitton & Farley         |
| Clare Churchill  | Wilton                  |
| Steve Malpass    | Environment Agency      |
| Renate Malton    | Wiltshire Council       |
| John Derryman    | South Newton & Stowford |
| Apologies        | Charlotte Fry           |
|                  | Mark Howells            |
|                  | Chris Pierce            |
|                  | Danny Everett           |
|                  | Richard Williams        |
|                  | Charlotte Fry           |

### **Welcome**

- The meeting is being recorded for the purposes of note taking if anyone has any objections please speak now.
- Any comments from the last minutes

### **Statutory undertakers update**

- Wiltshire Council
- Morning and welcome, Danny and Richard are not available for the call today. Although the officers are not in attendance, please raise your concerns and if we are not able to respond to them, we will forward them on.
- SSEN Grant available – email sent out to all flood wardens/volunteers as well as the clerks regard the criteria for this year's application. The brief is around community resilience in the face of power cuts, so think emergency phones, wind up radios, generators, wind up torches, light sticks. Or how you could improve your place of refuge taking this into account.
- minimum application £1,000.
- Any ideas you want to share, pass them to Renate and she will pass them around.

### **Environment Agency**

- Weather has been kind recently so not a lot to report which has allowed Steve to continue with the Property Flood Resilience installation across the Wessex

region which includes Wiltshire. Lots of communities e.g. Tisbury, liaising with public and homeowners, very quiet period since last meeting

- Tisbury – have an issue with leafy wooden debris in the river and want to know the best way of dealing with this, would like site visit by the EA regarding about they should or should not do. Steve will liaise with Tim and will follow this up.
- He has also been appointed as Clerk to Fovant pc and is working on their grant application.
- Re the Section 19 investigation and understand that they do take time but would appreciate the report from 21<sup>st</sup> October in fairly short order if at all possible. Sandra has advised the Parish council are chasing her.
- New group mentioned in last meeting – we do not know where this group has come from. Clare advised that it was being organised by Cllr Nabil Najjar, Danny is aware of this group focussing on Speed and flood in the Fovant and Chalk areas.
- Charles raised the issue of trees being removed as part of the river project in Salisbury. In the previous meeting he had asked for more publicity/information as to why this was happening but has yet to see any evidence of this being done and if it were it would quell the comments circulating. Steve will follow this up.

### **Wiltshire Highways**

- Matt Perrott advised his area is Devizes and Pewsey so some of the parishes covered by him are in the southern OFWG group.
- He also advised that he is one of the Duty Engineers working outside of office hours who cover the whole of Wiltshire providing a 24/7 service

### **Parish updates**

#### **Salisbury –**

- Cllr McGrath – leads the flood group for flooding in Salisbury. He advised they had the first “in person” flood warden training which will be very useful to them and help in re-energising the group and hopefully bring in new wardens
- Blocked gullies reported in Milford – will talk to the highway engineer re this, there is a question as to who is responsible for some in the Milford Hill area as water is running down the hill due gullies being blocked.

#### **Pitton & Farley**

- Thanks to Renate and Danny for providing the flood insurance information
- Once again still not heard anything from EA regarding the scheme. Steve will make phone calls on their behalf.
- Parish Council has drafted up a letter to John Glenn if happy with it they will send it out next week.

#### **Great Bedwyn**

- Not much to report, have our own flood plan on the radar and updating currently, need to understand who has responsibility for what.
- Employing own handyman to undertake jobs on behalf of the parish council.

### **Aldbourne**

- Groundwater levels are low, the Bourne has trickled away, filtration system that had been put in the event of flooding in preparation of extracting water from the sewers is still in place.
- The parish steward is saying they cannot clear gullies due to H & S. Would also like advance communications to enable residents to move their cars in advance of the gully tanker arriving.
- Matt -not responsible for Aldbourn – concerned about comments from the parish steward as they are able to hand clear the pit itself, depends on what problems is may be misadvised, - advised to have a chat with Martin Cook who looks after the area.
- Advised if they are submitting the list in advance to add a comment about parking cars being an issue and ask Tracy if they can pin it down to a day when they are coming you. Advise you are happy to arrange the no waiting cones but need to know when to do this.
- Thames water undertaking remedial work around the town, new chambers along Lottage Road, not good on communications. In one of the areas where there are multiple springs, they are undertaking work on their infrastructure.
- A planning application for up to 50 houses is being made this area and there are concerns this may affect the surcharging of the sewer. The drainage team are aware of this and will put in conditions.
- There is a long history of flooding regarding Lottage Road and confident that conditions would have been put in.
- Will pass onto Danny to see if we can alleviate any concerns. The residents themselves have put forward the concerns although we must state that the work done by Wiltshire Council has improved these issues.
- The site was approved by the Parish council and suggested in its Neighbourhood plan giving them a say in where any building should take place and it would enable conditions to be put forward.

### **South Newton & Stowford**

- Nothing to report in terms of incidents
- Receives complaints of drains blocked on the A36, advise residents that they should report them on their webpage, if nothing is done, drop Renate an email and she will pass it on to National Highways.

### **Warminster**

- An issue with a new resident who had purchased a property in the High Street which has flooding issues. She was advised to contact the Town council and ask them to bring this to the attention of this group.
- There are slot gullies in the pavement outside the shop which does not have any flood defences in place. It is an old property and the guttering discharges directly onto the pavement which contributes to the issues. A discussion

needs to occur between Danny and Dave Button. They are all aware of it, and it also came to Andrew.

- It has been passed to Richard who is currently on leave so no response has been given. The property owner has also been advised that she should consider taking steps to protect her own property and Renate sent her information regarding this.

#### **A.O.B**

- Steve – Sitting in for Bob Primmer from Wilton Council and listening in. Has notes from last meeting no issues to raise.
- Reminder to look at your flood plans make sure they are up to date, please get them done. We are experiencing storms which include heavy rains, if your parish hasn't one, please consider drawing one up.
- Wilton town council had a practice deployment of flood barriers, a few issues came up which are being addressed.
- We are continuing the OFWG meetings as Hybrid meetings allowing you to attend in person or via MS Teams. We have already undertaken a northern meeting in this format which went very well.

#### **Date of next meeting.**

June 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 – 12 Hybrid Meeting

De La Wyle Room

Bourne Hill Council Offices, Salisbury

- Please be advised that the room has limited capacity and if you have not told us you are attending in person you may not be able to join the meeting.

For those of you who are attending via MS Teams please see the link below: -

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