

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thames Water, Environment Agency,
Hampshire County Council with Hart District Council Members**

22 March 2021 at 2pm

Present:

Hart Councillors: Axam, Dorn, Forster (part), Makepeace-Browne, Oliver, Quarterman, Southern, Tomlinson, Worlock (Chairman).

Hampshire County Council (HCC) Cllrs. Bennison, Collett, Glen.
Susanna Hope

Thames Water Utilities: (TW) Carley Mason, Sarah Edmunds, Nikki Hines

Environment Agency: (EA) Neil Landricombe, Brian Roberts

Hart District Council (HDC): Philip Sheppard, Celia Wood

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Councillor Wildsmith (HDC), Sarah Reghif (HCC) and Keith Thompson, Highways Manager HCC.

2. Minutes and Action Table of 12 October 2020

There were two typing errors noted on the Action Table for Naishes Lane and Taylor Wimpey. With these amendments, the minutes for 12 October 2020 were approved.

The Chair welcomed Susie Hope back to the meeting with thanks to Hampshire County Council for enabling her to join and help in the transition phase as her replacement is not in post yet.

Action Table – items that were completed in October have been removed from the table and there are 4 new items:

- 2) Steering group for Fleet and Sandy Lane Ditch – ongoing.
Neil Landricombe introduced Brian Roberts who gave an update on the Fleet project work in the general update from the EA. Meetings have taken place and this has evolved further, not so much of a steering group now.
Yateley area – status update given later on Blackwater hydraulic remodelling and any project work will take in the Blackwater catchment to include Yateley. Discussions with Councillors are welcome if they wish to be involved with updates.
- 39) Crookham Park/Naishes Lane (HCC lead with HDC) – (SH) – HCC surveyed all of the stretches of water courses in the area (nearly 40 structures) and have gathered 3rd party information of direct observations during wet weather. Have received an update from Hart but not the Parish – if there is evidence it would be useful to have that information (SH and Cllr Bennison to discuss outside of the meeting).
- 44) Planning not able to attend today. PS (action) - to ask Planning to attend the Autumn meeting.

- 45) Processes, difficulties and potential strengthening of Flood and Water Management Act powers (HCC) – no update for this meeting but will be followed up by SH with VW. If it is not possible to get an update, this will be reviewed and closed off if no longer relevant. Noted that there is a lot of information on the HCC website however it is important to understand how to get things determined and actioned by the correct parties.

HCC to do a presentation at the next meeting of 11 October. SH (action) to send information on the HCC website to committee members ahead of that meeting.

- 48) Defer to Agenda item 7.
- 51) To make 101 aware of the Hart sandbag procedures – PS (action) to chase. Suggested educational campaign to raise awareness for people who think their property may be vulnerable to flooding – Hart District Council website to be refreshed (PS).
Also use social media (press release) to get the message across with local publications and bulletins.

- 53) Fleet FAS next consultation meeting - update from Brian Roberts (EA):

We have moved on from May 20 despite Covid-19 and have appointed a consultant (JBA) but Covid-19 has delayed some things mainly in the transfer of information and setting up partner meetings to explore concerns and consider options. There is a long list of options and EA is in the process of completing a review with information to complete the analysis for feed back to the consultants. Options will be narrowed down to provide a shortlist to be shared with partners at a second meeting in May/June.

Next stage of the business case will be presented Autumn 2021. Further meetings can be set up with PS to discuss with Councillors.

Plans produced from workshops identifying significant locations will be shared with Councillors. (BR action).

- 54) Taken under item 5.1 for update.

- 55) Webbs corner - update from Keith Thompson (HCC):

Phase 1 – the works at Webbs Corner is nearly complete.

Phase 2 – CCTV survey has been undertaken in The Street and at the east end of Warbrook Lane. Currently assessing the survey information to identify potential options to distribute flows to the various outfalls to Long River.

When the survey of existing network has been completed, the way forward will be discussed with PS and the Parish Council.

- Cllr Southern requested that the information goes out to the Parish Clerk due to some of the urgent work that is required in the area.
- Cllr Collett requested the same for the local County Councillor (PS action).

3. Impact of Recent Storms

No update.

4. Planning Applications (how to avoid flooding around new developments)

Planning to be invited to the October meeting (PS action).

5. STATUS UPDATES

5.1 Environment Agency (NL)

[a] Forward Programme & Existing Projects – EA has requested a small amount of funding for Griffin Stream (Hook) and Mill Lane (North Warnborough) to gather existing information and conduct a desktop study. Also aware of other areas within Hart ie Crondall that will fall under the Blackwater catchment for hydraulic remodelling programme. Currently EA do not have the resources to do Crondall until 2022.

[b] Modelling Programme – current modelling is from 200,7 remodelling will be based on updated hydrology focusing on Blackwater catchment – this will take about 18 months. The reason for this is that EA is coming to the end of a 6-year cycle and there is now the opportunity to add schemes in the next 6-year cycle.

[c] Flood Risk Management Plans – strategic document looking at measures to reduce flood risk. Consultation was intended for late summer but has been pushed back to October 2021. Anyone wishing to read up about the plans they are available on the Gov.uk website.

NL to share a list of works setting out all the areas EA are dealing with.

Action (NL) - send to PS to circulate to committee members.

Members expressed some concern about the performance of the EA and the updates given which they considered to be more on analysing data rather than action on issues.

5.4 HDC projects - Mill Corner, Phoenix Green and Kingsway. (PS)

The schemes are on hold until the new financial year and new Flood Risk Management Officer is in post.

Still awaiting approval from EA on the business case for Kingsway. EA have assured approval is on its way. Once that approval is given Hart can access the money needed for the next stage.

The committee noted the interruption caused by Covid-19 Pandemic and SH leaving HDC, which had put a strain on resources and slowing up some of the projects. However, with the ease of lockdown the situation will improve. Awaiting formal confirmation of acceptance of the post for the replacement for SH who will be in post by the end of April.

The replacement will be present at the Parish Flood Forum 7 September and Multi-agency meeting 11 October.

- 5.5 HCC projects:
[a] Highway Authority (HCC) – Webbs corner already updated and notes taken on Warbrook Lane.
- 5.6 Local Flood and Water Management Strategy HCC (SH) – HCC have recently revised and updated the strategy and published in November 20, now working on 18 catchment plans set under the strategy identifying which areas have the highest risk and producing a management plan for managing the risk in those areas.

As well as Hart, the strategy covers Farnborough and Rushmoor – working through in priority order and when completed will get published. When completed, HCC will advise which plans are available for examination.

- 5.7 TW projects: (SE)
[a] Surface Water Management Plans
This is now a programme of projected works for the next 5 years and includes a scoring for prioritisation with the focus more on strategic partnerships across the region. Currently, this is taking time to get up and running. Ongoing.

[b] Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans
These are industrywide plans so sessions are being held around prioritising at the options stage. Output of all this set of potential options should solve some of the challenges posed by climate change over next 25 years.

TW will share the public portal link, as part of the meeting minutes that explains further identification of some of the key catchments being looking at. Working to a time frame of having our drainage and wastewater plans completed in draft format consultation by the summer of 2022.

Ground Water Impacted System Management Plans (GWISMP) – update:

3 infiltration loggers installed in Crondall in November 2020 to capture the wet weather conditions - results are due to be published on TW website by 31st August. Phase 1 plans are already complete and published and a link will also be sent with these minutes as an example, because the Crondall plan will follow in the same format.

Note: Thames Water representatives (CM and SE) to liaise with Cllr Dorn offline on information on Crondall GWISMP.

6. Update on Parish Flood Forum (HDC)

The format for the Forum is proposed to be held on TEAMS with break out rooms, should restrictions for Covid19 still be in place. Instructions will be sent in plenty of time with a phone number for clarification if required. Please note date:

Next meeting date: Tuesday 7 September 2021 (afternoon).

7. Forward Water Situation (EA & TW)

EA: Over winter the levels were high, dropping down now. Levels will continue to reduce, moving into Spring and Summer. In the absence of a Met Office long range forecast, it is anticipated that the levels will remain manageable.

TW: (NH) Reflected EA comments.

8. Any Other Business

PS - Ground Water Management Plans – updates to be included future meetings.

AC – sought reassurance that the flooding in gardens of residents in Frys Lane has been resolved. CM reported that there have been no reports of incidents since October 20.

TS – Phoenix Green flood remediation progress – PS confirmed this is on hold, until the new Flood Engineer is in post at Hart.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on Monday 11 October 2021 at 2pm.

As normal with the minutes, there will be a post-meeting note added for the responses of the various agency partners.

Meeting ended 3:46pm