



# Loxwood Parish Council

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## LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL FLOOD FORUM Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016

**Attendees:** Dom Henley (Chichester District Council, Flood Engineer); Malcolm Frost Ifold resident; residents who are members of the Loxwood flood forum. Parish Councillor Tony Colling.

Chairman of the meeting: Vice Chairman of Loxwood Parish Council, Roger Newman.

Clerk: Jane Bromley, Clerk, Loxwood Parish Council

1. **Apologies.** Graham Purvis (Southern Water); Andy Townsend (Environment Agency); Kevin Macknay (West Sussex County Council)
2. **Minutes of the Meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015**, the action involving GP and the Alfold ditch walk was thought not to be in the minutes but is below. **ACTION BW**

### Discussion surrounding Action Points:

- 1) RN to discuss further with Loxwood Hall residents RN had spoken to some residents around the lake which was owned by those with gardens backing onto the lake. The lake itself was only a maximum of 18 inches deep and this together with the multiple ownership was thought by RN to be a difficulty in using the lake for attenuation purposes.

A resident asked that the use of the lake for attenuation be kept as a possibility as it was, he felt, the over flowing of the lake in December 2013 that had caused the flooding of the Loxwood Houses.

DH mentioned that it might be quite straight forward to increase the height of the lake at low areas to enhance its capacity and with Operation Watershed funding now available again this could be a possibility. RN was to put this to Kevin Macknay of WSCC to ascertain if this would be a benefit. **ACTION RN**

- 2) The ditch walks needed to be organised in Plaistow and Ifold.

These had not yet taken place due to the workload of the Plaistow and GP has mentioned this below in his report. **ACTION GP**

Report from Graham Purvis Southern Water:

I have asked our hydraulic modeller consultant to review a suggestion by Malcolm Frost to change the blocked off manhole 9002 outside Anmee, The Ride to one which allows a high level overflow on the 'southern' leg of the drainage system, to see if this improves the performance of the network. I will report back to you once I have the information.

An outstanding action that still needs to be completed is to arrange with yourself and Beverley Wedell to do a walk around the area to identify particular issues. I will try to pursue this as soon as possible, once our immediate flooding issues have settled down.

3) NT to investigate Flood Re with Andrew Tyrie.

A leaflet about Flood Re had been sent around to the flood forum residents. A resident thought that most insurance companies knew nothing about this. RN was to look into this and to contact the ABI and to ascertain whether there would be any refund on premiums paid for previous years. **ACTION RN**

4) Walderslade'. Do the parish know the owner?

RN was to investigate the location of this [property which was not on the electoral role. **ACTION RN**

5) TC survey modelling work together with any reports he had produced to AT. This had been sent to AT.

6) Fund raising to prepare for the possible need of match funding by Central Government.

Operation Watershed funding was to be available again in the new financial year. The Parish Council had set aside £20,000 of reserves for match funding.

7) Land near Station Rd near Farm Close had recently been sold, new owners of land to be established. To be looked for on the Land Registry in due course. **ACTION TC**

8) Parish Council would chase KM of WSCC re the relaying of pipework in the Spy Lane area. This had been actioned but no reply to date it was thought that the funding had not yet come through and KM would be chased again. **ACTION JB**

8) Southern Water are conducting a study into the sewage and drainage systems in Plaistow and Ifold and this should be completed early March 2016. **ACTION GP**. An Ifold resident affirmed that this walk was very important and should be given high priority.

### **3. Environmental Agency Business Case- Progress report by AT**

A Strategic Outline Case was being produced for future flood risk management works in Loxwood. This work is progressing well. I have seen a first draft of the strategic outline case (SOC). We have a team of people finalising a "package" of SOC's at the moment and, once complete, these will be submitted for further assurance and approval from our national experts. I expect this to be complete by the end of this financial year (31<sup>st</sup> March). Following approval, we will go out to a 7 week tender period to secure a supplier to undertake the technical work necessary to appraise a detailed scheme proposal for all of the schemes in the overall package, including Loxwood.

We are making good progress and I will update the forum further at the next meeting.

### **4. Recent Flooding Experiences.**

The Clerk from Alfold had sent a note concerning works to be carried out on the Sidney wood Canal and whether part of this work could involve the production of an attenuation system. RN undertook to look into this. **ACTION RN**

Oak Grove and Spy Lane area was the subject of some near flooding in January 2016. This was the result of blocked drains and culverts and the access into 'Walderslade'

was a factor in sorting out this problem. RN had investigated this problem and had asked KM to look at a solution or works required. **ACTION KM**

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**5. Any other business.**

A resident asked what was to be done regarding surface run off from the proposed Nursery Site development? There was some discussion as to the topography of the land and as to which way the surface drainage would flow. Most of the land drained towards the stream but that nearer the road was thought to drain towards the road. DH mentioned that a Sustainable Urban Drainage System for the site was being proposed which may well improve drainage on the site as the clay ground was not highly porous in times of extreme rain and could act in the same way as concrete or tarmac under such conditions. RN reassured all that this was currently being dealt with through the planning process. TC asked that the appropriate part of the letter written to CDC Planning regarding this be sent to Graham Purvis as Southern Water were a Statutory Consultee. **ACTION JB**

Thames Water and Southern Water were currently undertaking a study of surface drainage for Clappers Meadow and it was thought the relevant part of the letter to CDC should also be sent to Thames Water. **ACTION JB**

A resident pointed out that there was a private pumping station at Seniors Mission which was the cause of sewerage flooding in Alfold Bars and that this should be pointed out to BW the Alfold Clerk. **ACTION JB**

A resident asked if the residents behind North Hall could be asked to keep their ditches clear. **ACTION JB**

The field opposite the North Hall was thought to be causing flooding from surface run off as a result of blocked ditches. The Parish Council had written to the owner reminding him of his riparian duties but had had no response. The details of the owner were now to be passed to the DH CDC for enforcement. **ACTION JB**

**6. Next meeting Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 10.30am Mursell Room, North Hall**