



Loxwood Parish Council

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MINUTES LOXWOOD PARISH COUNCIL FLOOD FORUM Meeting 27th November 2015

Attendees: Graham Purvis (Southern Water); Andy Townsend (Environment Agency); Dom Henley (Chichester District Council, Flood Engineer); Denise Knightley (Chichester District Councillor); Malcolm Frost Ifold resident; residents who are members of the Loxwood flood forum.

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

Clerk: Jane Bromley, Clerk, Loxwood Parish Council

1. **Apologies.** WSCC Janet Duncton; Kevin Macknay WSCC, Flood Engineer; Tony Colling (Parish Councillor)

2. **Minutes of the Meeting of 18th September 2015**

The Culverts at Pigbush Lane need to be checked out at times of heavy rain.

The Loxwood Lake's use as a possible attenuation/weir system had been investigated and the ownership of the lake was between three individuals. There is no official management of the lake and it would seem that it might be difficult to set up a system using the lake. RN to discuss further with Loxwood Hall residents.

Action RN

The ditch walks needed to be organised in Plaistow and Ifold. **ACTION BW**

Drainage investigation work had been carried out outside North Hall and KM had reported on this under point 4.

CDC Cllr. NT to investigate Flood Re with Andrew Tyrie. **ACTION NT**

3. **Meeting of 12th October 2015**

All action points covered later in the meeting.

4. **Update from Kevin Macknay WSCC**

KM, WSCC - Just a quick roundup of what we (WSCC) have been doing in Loxwood since the last meeting:

Guildford Road (adjacent to the Village Hall).

We have visited site with a larger jetting machine and a CCTV unit to try and jet / survey the highway drainage system from 'Brookside' north to Merry Hills Lane. From 'Brookside' to Spy Lane we have a single system on the eastern side of the road, which is clear and outfalls into the river within the existing culvert under the road.

From Spy Lane north we have a system on both sides of Guildford Road. We were unable to access the system along the eastern side of the road due to buried manholes and limited access for the CCTV camera at the existing 'in line' gullies on this side.

The system on the western side of the road, from Spy Lane north, i.e. adjacent to the village hall, was almost completely inaccessible due to root infestation, damage due to other statutory undertakers i.e. water and electric and clasped lengths of pipe. Therefore, I put in a request for a capital project to be put into the highways programme for 2016/17 for the entire system from Spy Lane north to Merry Hills Lane to be replaced with a new system. I'm waiting for the draft programme to be published to see this has been successful.

Spy Lane / Oak Grove.

We jetted as much of the system at this location as we could. Unfortunately, limited access again into the system meant we could not CCTV all of the system. Once off Spy Lane the system runs through the back gardens of No's 10 and 9 Oak Grove and then turns through 90 degrees in the garden of No. 8 or 'Walderslade', Oak Grove. At this point we were unable to track the system any more. I spoke to a lady at No. 8, Oak Grove and she said at times of heavy rain she can hear water flowing at the very end of her garden, but she has never seen a manhole.

Ideally, we need to try to complete this work, but it will involve access on to private land i.e. the garden of 'Walderslade'. Do the parish know the owner? **ACTION PC.**

5. Environmental Agency Business Case

AT- Confirmed that funding had been received to enable the EA to put forward a business case. Research would be done in to such things as the attenuation/weir proposal for Loxwood Lake and topographical surveys would be carried out using this funding.

AT requested the TC survey modelling work together with any reports he had produced. **ACTION JB**

This process was likely to take 6-8 months at which time the results of the business case will be put to Central Government to apply for match funding.

The Parish Council could help by contacting residents in affected areas to mention that EA workers may require access to their gardens over this period to do investigative work. In addition to consider fund raising to prepare for the possible need of match funding by Central Government. **ACTION PC**

A resident asked if Ifold would be considered in this investigation?

AT confirmed that he would be looking generally but areas at most risk would be most targeted. Individual properties could be offered other measures for protection.

A resident mentioned that land near Station Rd near Farm Close had recently been sold and wondered if it would be considered for housing. It was a low level area and most certainly part of a flood plain. He also wondered whether it would be considered a wetland area that could be regenerated as such and therefore enable funding in this direction. New owners of land to be established. **ACTION PC**

DH- CDC knew the area and thought most unlikely to obtain permission for housing given its low level and flood plain status.

6. Any other business

Resident expressed frustration that there was no action just CCTV and reports.

RN confirmed that the Parish Council would chase KM of WSCC re the relaying of pipework in the Spy Lane area. **ACTION JB**

Resident asked if Alfold Bars had been considered and RN confirmed that they were and that a Parish Councillor Loxton lived in that area and kept the Parish Council informed.

The issue of run off from the field owned by Mr Carsdale opposite North Hall is to await the assessment of the impact of the drainage work.

GP stated that 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.

- 7. Next meeting was scheduled for 12th February 2015 10.30 am Musell Room of North Hall.**