## **BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP**

## MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013

ITEM	ACTION
ITEM 1-WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN	
<ol> <li>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the March Meeting. Reviewing the past month, he said that there had only been one occasion when the water level in the Millcroft Brook had risen above 0.5m. That had been on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 2.45pm and it had peaked at just under 0.8m at 4.10pm, so had not presented any problem at all.</li> <li>There were 30 members present and apologies were received from Mr Giampalma, Mr</li> </ol>	
Minchin, Mr Mullenger, Mr Nickols, Mrs Aldridge, Mrs Arrowsmith, Mrs Bick, Miss Easson and Mrs Parker.	
<u>ITEM 2 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u>	
3. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the February Meeting which had been circulated earlier with the Agenda and were also available in hard copy on the tables. Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Mrs Clark, seconded by Miss Gibson and agreed.	
ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING	
4. <u><b>High Visibility Jackets</b></u> . The Chairman reported that the Secretary had not yet heard from Mr Dan Trewin. However, if nothing has been heard by June, she will contact him again and find out whether the request for jackets has been successful.	Secretary
5. <b><u>Practice Session with Pumps</u></b> .	
a. As planned, two pump training sessions were held outside Millcroft Farm on Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 23rd March. The Chairman thanked everyone who had turned out for the training, and gave particular thanks to the Operations Officer, Mr Stephens, who had organised the sessions, produced all the equipment and provided very clear and practical instruction.	
b. Although the conditions had not been ideal - there had been snow on the ground on the second occasion - everyone had got a lot of value out of the training and there had been general agreement that there ought to be a refresher course every six months.	
6. <u>Maund Bryan</u> . The Chairman reminded members that there are two issues at Maund Bryan – the bad design of the culverts where the Moor Brook passes under the U94017 at Maund Common and the planning application for the erection of one poultry building and extension to two poultry buildings at Maund Court:	
a. <u>The Moor Brook Culverts</u> . Mr Grumbley reported that there had been no progress since he raised the issue at the end of last November, but that he would continue to pursue it.	Mr Grumbley
b. <u>Maund Court Planning Application</u> .	
(1) Mr Grumbley said that water coming off the A417 is already a problem,	

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	causing damage to the road surface of the U 94017 and placing the houses near the road junction at risk of flooding. Residents at Maund Bryan are concerned that the effect of increasing the size of the buildings at Maund Court will make the run-off situation worse and that the arrangements for holding water in an attenuation pond are inadequate to prevent this.	
	(2) The Chairman said that the Planning Application had been discussed at the last Parish Council Meeting on 4th March and, while the Council had not objected to it in principle, it had expressed concern that the risk of increased run-off had not been properly addressed and that this should be done before Planning Permission was granted.	
	(3) Mr Grumbley went on to say that it was very important for the residents of the Parish to sign up to a Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that they had a voice in future building development in the Parish. Otherwise, they could find themselves in a situation where they were unable to protect themselves from housing and commercial developments which they did not want, including those which might increase the risk of flooding to existing properties. He added that under the new Council Infrastructure Levy (CIL) system the Parish would be entitled to a proportion of the levy set by Herefordshire Council on building developments, other than those for affordable housing, and would be able to use this money to support community plans within the Parish. If the Parish has a Neighbourhood Plan in place it will receive 25% of the CIL in each case, but, if there is no Neighbourhood Plan, it will only be entitled to 15%. Mr Grumbley emphasised to the meeting that in future any funds flowing from the CIL could be deployed on projects like the Ketch Lane culvert upgrade. (Afternote: Moor Brook/U94017 Crossing - The Highways have now marked with yellow paint one area of the crossing).	
Ketch	<u>Grants</u> . The Treasurer told the Meeting that he had approached the Kingspan Insulation unity Trust with a view to a grant towards the replacement of the twin culverts at the Lane/ Millcroft Road Junction. The Application had to be submitted by 30 <sup>th</sup> September asideration at the Trustees' Meeting on 8 <sup>th</sup> November.	
8.	Waders.	
	a. The Chairman reported that all the waders had now been received and added to the BFPG's Equipment List. He expressed his thanks to Mr Hemming for all he had done to obtain the waders for the Group.	
	b. He reminded members that, although the funding for them had been from the Group, they were the property of the Parish Council and were held on charge by the Secretary.	Secretary
9. had not	<b>Sandbag Cage Locks</b> . The Chairman asked that those on the list of key holders who t yet collected or signed for their keys to contact the Secretary.	
ITEM	I 4 – EXTERNAL RELATIONS	
10.	Visit of the CEO of Herefordshire Council.	
	a. The Chairman reminded members that almost exactly nine months ago (25th June 2012) our District Councillor, Cllr Jeremy Millar, had arranged for a visit by the then CEO of Herefordshire Council, Mr Chris Bull. The Chairman had used that opportunity to ask for Mr Bull's help in resolving two issues – the clearance of the culvert in Mr Pugh's field and the replacement of the Ketch Lane culverts. Mr Bull had promised to	

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investigate and get back to him, but, despite pressure from Cllr Millar for an answer, no response had been forthcoming before Mr Bull departed from his post.	
b. The new CEO of Herefordshire Council is Mr Alistair Neill and Cllr Millar had arranged for him to visit on Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March to discuss BFPG matters. He had been accompanied by Mr Paul Nicholas, the Locality Manager for Leominster.	
c. The Chairman reported that he raised the same two issues with Mr Neill and added a third – the Maund Bryan culverts. Mr Neill had expressed great interest in what the Group have been doing and had been especially concerned to understand how Herefordshire Council can connect better with local communities.	
11. <b>Presentation to Mordiford Annual Parish Meeting</b> . The Chairman reported that he had been asked to give a presentation on the BFPG to the Annual Parish Meeting at Mordiford. He and the Secretary would attend and take with them the usual display of photographs and pamphlets. The Chairman added that he had also been approached by a resident of Cradley for advice on setting up a Flood Group there.	
ITEM 5 - TREASURER'S REPORT	
12. The Treasurer reported that the recent expenditure had been:	
a.Room Hire£15.75b.Thigh Waders£98.96	
13. The balance in the Group's account now stood at $\pounds 2,092.04$ .	
ITEM 6 – FUTURE PLANS	
14. <b>Annual Fund-Raising Quiz Night</b> . Mrs Griffiths confirmed that the Parish Hall had been booked for Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October. She said that, unless there were any objections, the Secretary would advertise the event in the <i>Newsletter</i> to reduce the chance of a clash of dates with another club or society, as had happened in the past. (Afternote: The Secretary has sent a notice to Mrs Howarth for publication in the <i>Newsletter</i> ).	Secretary
15. Working Party Sessions.	
a. The Chairman reminded members that Spring had officially started and that the British Summer Time would be starting on Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> March. It was therefore time to think about working parties!	
b. Mr Stephens had suggested that the first working party session for 2013 should be on Friday $26^{th}$ April. Everything, of course, would depend on the weather, so the Secretary will confirm to everyone nearer the time whether or not the session is going ahead or is being cancelled – and, if all is well, where to meet and with what equipment.	Secretary
c. Mr Stephens said that initially he would be aiming to clear the drains and flap valves and to move on from there. He added that he hoped that by then there would be some answer regarding the culvert in Mr Pugh's field.	
AGENDA ITEM 7 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
16. <u>Gift of a Barbecue</u> . Mrs Hemming told the Meeting that she would be donating a charcoal barbecue to the Group. The Chairman thanked her and Mr Hemming and added that it	

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would be very useful for the Annual Barbecue on 27 <sup>th</sup> July.	
17. <b>Water Leak in Millcroft Road</b> . The continuing run of water down Millcroft Road from the C1125 junction was raised. The Chairman said that the general consensus was that the water was coming from a spring in the field behind the telephone box and that, since it had been reported to both Amey Herefordshire and Welsh Water on several occasions, there was no further action which could be taken for the time being. He said that he suspected that, given the number of potholes and other problems created by the continuing wintery weather, it did not feature as a high priority on either organisation's task list. He added that the Parish Council were aware of the situation, but that there was not a great deal more they could do about it either.	
<ul> <li>18. Date of the Next Meeting. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013.</li> </ul>	
19. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm.	

KA MITCHESON Chairman

30<sup>th</sup> April 2013