

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 2016

ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed members to the June Meeting and remarked that, although there had been quite a lot of rain recently, this had had no significant effect on water levels in the local brooks.</p> <p>2. <u>Apologies.</u> There were 17 members present and apologies were received from Cllr Baker, Mrs Bowden, Mrs Brown, Mrs Burnill, Mrs Clark, Mrs Davies, Miss Gibson, Mr Gilding, Mr and Mrs Griffiths, Mr Maxwell, Mrs Parker, Mrs Rudge, Mr and Mrs Schwartz, Mr Sebbage, Mr Tilford, and Mr and Mrs Watson.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 2 - MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></p> <p>3. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the May Meeting. These had been circulated earlier with the Agenda and were also available in hard copy on the tables. Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Avery and agreed.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>4. <u>Possible Invitation to Mr Bill Wiggin MP.</u> As agreed at the April Meeting, Cllr Tilford had suggested to the Parish Council Meeting on 9 May that Mr Bill Wiggin MP might be invited to a future working party session to see the Group in action. The Council had agreed that the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Pam James-Moore, should write to Mr Wiggin with some possible dates for such a visit. The outcome was awaited.</p> <p>5. <u>Orchard Close Drainage System and Ketch Lane Culverts.</u> The Chairman said that he had not yet found a suitable opportunity to discuss possible ways forward with Cllr Baker, who had been on holiday, but would do so.</p> <p>6. <u>Herefordshire Council's Revised Sandbag Policy.</u> The Chairman went on to report that he had explained Herefordshire Council's new Sandbag Policy to the Parish Council at its Meeting on 6 June. Councillors had noted this without much discussion, not least because he had indicated that the Parish had sufficient sand bags to tide it over for the coming winter. However, the financial implications were clear and he had</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Chairman</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>undertaken to report back in due course with an estimate of the likely annual costs for replacing empty and filled sandbags and additional sandbag cages in which to secure reserve stock.</p>	<p>Secretary</p>
<p><u>ITEM 4 - TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p>	
<p>7. The Chairman reported that there had been no income or expenditure since the last Meeting, so the balance continued to stand at £3,525.82.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 5 – EXTERNAL CONTACTS</u></p>	
<p>8. <u>Environment Agency Hi Vis Vests.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman noted that the Secretary had been in contact with the Environment Agency's Flood Resilience Team regarding more hi vis vests for group members. Ms Sally Burton, whom some members might remember from the QAVS Presentation, had taken over from Mr Dan Trewin, who had presented the BFPG with its present set of vests. However, she had now moved on and her full time replacement would be Ms Amy Robinson. The latter would not be in post for some time, so Mr Jason Walker was our temporary contact in the Flood Resilience Team.</p> <p>b. The Chairman reported that Mr Walker had procured some vests for the Group and the Secretary had suggested that he should make a presentation of them at a Working Party evening and stay afterwards to meet Group members. The Secretary had suggested Friday, 22 July for this and Mr Walker had provisionally agreed this date. This would fit in with the working party evening when the Millcroft Brook clearance schedule would have reached the Millcroft Farm to Ketch Lane Junction section. (Afternote. In the light of the discussion of working party dates at Minute 9.d below, the presentation is now likely to take place on Thursday, 28 July).</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 6 – FUTURE EVENTS</u></p>	
<p>9. <u>Working Parties.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman apologised for the slight uncertainty which had occurred over whether or not there was to have been a working party on 17 June. This had been caused because there had been no actual decision on working party dates at the last Meeting.</p> <p>b. <u>Friday, 24 June Working Party.</u></p> <p>(1) He thanked all the 15 members who had taken part in the session on Friday, 24 June when the Group had started tackling the stretch downstream from the Brockington Bridge. Some progress had been made, but this had been hampered by two factors.</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>(2) The first was that, although the water level in the Brook was low, there were places where it was just a little too deep for wellingtons. These sections of the Brook could mostly be bypassed by walking along the banks, but the real solution was for members to use waders. He reminded those present that the BFPG had several sets of waders which he brought to working party sessions and the Group could purchase more, as necessary. He urged members to use these; all they needed to have was a belt onto which to attach them.</p> <p>(3) The second delaying factor had been that only one brush cutter had been used last Friday. The next downstream section of the Brook was even more heavily overgrown and it would be important to have more trimmers in operation. In addition to the BFPG's brush cutter, he would be willing to use his own, while the BFPG's other trimmers and hedge trimmer could also be employed for the lighter work.</p> <p>c. <u>Possible Visit by Mr Wiggin MP.</u> The Chairman reminded members that at the last Meeting it had been decided that the following dates should be offered to Mr Wiggin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 17 June or 24 June – now both past; (2) 1 July, 22 July or 29 July; (3) 5 August, 12 August, 19 August or 26 August; (4) 2 September. <p>d. <u>Future Working Party Dates.</u></p> <p>(1) The Chairman remarked, that, until a reply was received from Mr Wiggin, it would be best to keep these dates clear, although obviously as time progressed changes could be made. A case in point was next Friday, 1 July, when he and Secretary now have a private commitment. Since it was now most unlikely that Mr Wiggin would be visiting then, the Chairman suggested that this next working party should be moved to Thursday, 30 June, with members meeting at Brockington Road Bridge at 6.00pm.</p> <p>(2) In discussion, it was agreed that, subject to any response from Mr Wiggin, the next few working party sessions would be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Thursday, 30 June, meeting at the Brockington Road bridge at 6.00pm. (b) Thursday 14 July at 6.00pm, meeting at the Millcroft Road cul de sac. (c) Thursday 28 July at 6.00pm – probably at Millcroft Farm (to be confirmed). 	<p>All</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>10. <u>Annual Barbecue.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman reminded members that the Annual Barbecue would take place on Saturday, 30 July by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Stephens at their field on Rowberry Lane. It had been voted at the May Meeting that £45 of the £85 remaining from the Refreshment Fund should be allocated to help provide food for the Barbecue. However, members were, of course, free to bring their own food, if they wished, and they should bring their own drinks and their own chairs since these will not be provided.</p> <p>b. The Chairman went on to say that posters for the event had been sent out by the Secretary attached to the May and also the Minutes. There would be two BFPG members wearing hi vis vests to show those attending the Barbecue where to go. He again asked all those planning to attend to let Mr and Mrs Stephens know as soon as possible. All donations of salads, puddings would be gratefully received and Mrs Stephens asked that those bringing these items should contact her and let her know.</p> <p>11. <u>Annual Bonfire Party.</u> The Chairman reminded members that the Bonfire Party at Millcroft Farm would be on Saturday, 8 October. More details would be sent out by the Secretary in due course.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Secretary</p>
<u>ITEM 7 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u>	
<p>12. <u>Date of the Next Meeting.</u> The next Meeting will be held at the Siward James Centre on Tuesday, 26 July 2016 at 7.30pm.</p> <p>13. There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.00pm.</p>	

Cllr KA Mitcheson
Chairman

26 July 2016

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



**Saturday 30 July 2016
at 6.00P.M.**

**Ann and Mike's Field, Rowberry Lane
Please bring your own drink**

**Please let Ann and Mike
know if you plan to attend on
mikestephens.gardenservices@gmail.com**

or

01568 797816

Please bring your own chair