

# BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



## MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2016

ITEM	ACTION
<p><b><u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u></b></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed members to the November Meeting, the last of 2016, and noted that winter had now arrived with the first significant rainfall in many months. During and after Storm Angus on 21-22 November the early warning telemetry system had issued its first two alerts since last March and water had just entered the relief channel. However, thanks to all the hard work put in by members over the summer, the water got away very quickly and there was never any cause for concern.</p> <p>2. <b><u>Apologies.</u></b> There were 25 members present and apologies were received from Cllr Bruce Baker, Mr Bowden, Mrs Burnill, Mrs Griffiths, Mr Maxwell, Mrs Parker, Mrs Rudge, Mr and Mrs Watson, and Mr and Mrs Wilson.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 2 - MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b></p> <p>3. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the October 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 Mr Harris, seconded by Mrs Bowden and agreed</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p>4. <b><u>Annual Quiz Night.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman congratulated Mrs Anita Griffiths and her team of helpers - Mr and Mrs Schwartz for the excellent sandwiches, Mrs Sue Maxwell for the amazing cakes, and Mrs Nina Dowler and Mrs Kay Clark for running the Raffle. Once again we had been lucky to have Mrs Tricia Coney as our Quiz Master and Mr Steve Coney and Miss Fliss Sanford as Assistant and Adjudicator for the event. A total of 36 people had attended what had been a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Sadly, a table of six had belatedly pulled out, otherwise the total income would have been greater. The amount raised is given in the Treasurer's Report below.</p> <p>b. Owing to a prior engagement, Mrs Griffiths was unable to attend the Meeting, but the Chairman said that in her absence she had asked him to read out the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“I cannot be at the Flood Group meeting on Tuesday as I am away for a few days but would you please thank everyone from me for their invaluable help in making the night a success. To those who donated</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>raffle prizes, to the ladies who prepared the food (which was excellent), to the folks who put up the tables, the ladies who ran the raffle and to everyone who helped to clear away and wash up a huge THANK YOU. Last but not least, to everyone who turned out to support and enjoy the quiz, I am very grateful. It is a very pleasant way to raise money so that the Flood Group can continue their work to support the whole village.”</p> <p>c. The Chairman then expressed the Group’s thanks to Mrs Griffiths for yet again organising such a successful occasion and to this he added members’ thanks to the other helpers and especially to Mr and Mrs Schwartz and Mr and Mrs Maxwell who had not only made the sandwiches and cakes, but had donated them without charge.</p> <p>5. <b><u>Sandbags.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman reminded members that the annual sandbag checks had not quite been completed. This was because the Group was still waiting for delivery of the 150 empty sandbags ordered from Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP). He understood that the Senior Locality Steward, Mrs Donna Tregenza, would be attending the next Parish Council Meeting on 5 December and he hoped to arrange for her to deliver the bags then. Once he had them he would ask for volunteers to help check the bags in the one remaining cage to be inspected, that on the school car park.</p> <p>b. Having mentioned Mrs Tregenza, the Chairman noted that, from Monday, 12 December she would no longer be the Locality Steward, but would be transferring to BBLP’s Operations Team where she would be managing the street cleansing team as well as helping with other ‘public realm’ projects. Her new title would be Public Realm Supervisor. Mr James Howells, currently Locality Steward for Leominster Town, would be taking over as our Locality Steward. The Chairman suggested that he should pass on the Group’s thanks to Mrs Tregenza for all that she had done for the Parish as Senior Locality Steward and this was agreed. (<b>Afternote:</b> The Secretary will contact Mr Howells and invite him to meet the Group once he has taken over)</p>	<p></p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p>
<p><b><u>ITEM 4 - TREASURER’S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>6. The Chairman reported that the balance at the end of October had been £3,524.32. The income and expenditure for November was:</p> <p>a. The BFPG Account has now been credited with the £66.28 VAT refund outstanding from capital purchases.</p> <p>b. The Quiz Night had 36 attendees and the profit from the evening, less expenditure, was £277 which is already with the Parish Clerk to be credited to the Group’s Account.</p> <p>7. The balance of the Account at the end of November (and the end of 2016) is £3,897.60.</p>	<p></p>
<p><b><u>ITEM 5 – THE FUTURE STORAGE OF SANDBAGS</u></b></p> <p>8. The Chairman reported that at the last Meeting of the Parish Council on</p>	<p></p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>7 November he had asked for funding to purchase a second hand container which would allow the Group to store its central reserve stock of sandbags at the Parish Hall both securely and under the cover needed to prevent the bags from bio-degrading. The Parish Council had agreed to pay £1200 for the purchase of the container and £50 for its delivery and the Chairman said that he hoped to arrange for the container to be established behind the Parish Hall as soon as possible. Before this could happen, however, several tasks had to be completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The exact location of the container had to be agreed and he was in correspondence with the Chairman of the Parish Hall Management Committee, Mr Robin Knott, on this.</li> <li>b. Some minor levelling of the site would almost certainly be needed and two sleepers would have to be provided to raise the containers off the ground.</li> <li>c. The stock of sandbags at the Parish Hall would have to be moved into the container and secured with a padlock.</li> </ul> <p>9. The Chairman said that there would obviously be a cost for the levelling of the site – perhaps £50 – for the provision of the sleepers – about £40 – and, should it be required, for a heavy duty padlock – about £15. He thought that the total cost was unlikely to exceed £120. He therefore asked members for authority to spend up to that amount. Cllr Clark said that he had some sleepers, which he was happy to donate, and Cllr Tilford added that he could provide a heavy duty padlock and keys. The Chairman thanked both Councillors and revised the estimated cost to some £60. This expenditure was proposed by Cllr Avery, seconded by Mrs Bowden and agreed. (<b>Afternote.</b> On closer inspection the storage container has working mortice locks at two points on its doors. Therefore, with thanks to Cllr Tilford for his kind offer, the padlock will not now be required. Instead, some keys will have to be cut to supplement the single key which came with the container. As regards the sleepers generously provided by Cllr Clark, these unfortunately proved to be only 6’ 3” in length and therefore unsuitable for this particular task, although they may be usable to replace a pallet as the base of one of the sandbag cages in the Village. This has meant that two 8’ sleepers have had to be purchased for the container after all. The site was levelled on Thursday, 1 December and the container was delivered and installed on Tuesday, 6 December).</p> <p>10. The Chairman added that obviously getting the container to the Parish Hall was only the first stage of the project. The container was second hand and would need to be painted to deal with some rust patches. At present it was grey, but would probably blend into its new surroundings if it was painted a dark green. That, he said, would be a project for next year. The sandbags under the tarpaulins at the Parish Hall would have to be moved into the container and, finally, it was proposed to move the cage which is at the front of the Parish Hall to the school car park. Again, this would be a task for 2017 and he would come back to the subject at a meeting in the New Year.</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b></p>
<p><b><u>ITEM 6 – CONSULTATION ON LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY</u></b></p> <p>11. The Chairman drew members’ attention to the Consultation on Herefordshire Council’s Local Flood Risk Management Strategy which is currently in progress. The strategy, which provides an overview of flood risk in the County, sets out five key objectives for managing local flood risk:</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand flood risks throughout Herefordshire;</li> <li>• Manage the likelihood and impacts of flooding;</li> <li>• Help the community to help themselves;</li> <li>• Manage flood warnings, response and recovery;</li> <li>• Promote sustainable and appropriate development.</li> </ul> <p>12. The Consultation is open until Monday, 30 January 2017 and the Chairman suggested that some members might like to read the draft document and respond. He said that, although it is a lengthy document, much of it is repetition and much of it is not directly relevant to the Group. Nevertheless, it contains quite a lot of basic information about flood risk and about the agencies and individuals responsible for mitigating it. It also explains the state of Herefordshire Council’s knowledge of flood risk in its area, how it is trying to improve this, and what it will in future regard as a ‘significant flood event’ worth investigating and recording.</p> <p>13. The document also mentions studies which are being conducted into areas which have been flooded in the past and what can be done to protect them. These are Lea, Eardisley, Eardisland, Five Bridges, Brimfield and Hope Under Dinmore, but surprisingly there is no mention of Bodenham; in fact, there is no mention of Bodenham in the document at all. It goes on to discuss how areas at risk will be prioritised for action and there is a whole section on how to involve communities. Indeed, it says that “One of the factors that will be taken into consideration by the council when selecting schemes to be taken forward will be the support that is provided by the local community. In these times of austerity it is essential that all those involved in the management of flood risks join together to provide a partnership approach to flood risk management.” There was also much information about funding and, members would be pleased to know, many references to sewerage and Welsh Water.</p> <p>14. The Chairman said that he did not intend to summarise the whole document, but urged members to read it for themselves and either respond to the Consultation directly, or let him have their comments for inclusion in a BFPG response. To help in this process he would circulate the link to the document by e-mail and include it in the Minutes: It is: <a href="http://newsroom.herefordshire.gov.uk/have-your-saylocal-flood-risk-management-strategy.aspx">http://newsroom.herefordshire.gov.uk/have-your-saylocal-flood-risk-management-strategy.aspx</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>All</b></p>
<p><b><u>ITEM 7 – FUTURE EVENTS</u></b></p> <p>15. <b><u>BFPG Annual Coffee Morning</u></b>. The Chairman said that, once again Mrs Liz Davies had kindly agreed to organise the annual Coffee Morning, which will take place at Siward James on Saturday, 4 February 2017 from 10.00am to noon. The posters and flyers would be out around the Village nearer the date and the Secretary had already sent details to Susan Howarth for the <i>Newsletter</i> and would ask the Parish Clerk to put details in the village section of <i>The Hereford Times</i>. Needless to say, the details and poster would also be on the Parish Website. Mrs Davies told the Meeting that she would welcome any ideas to improve the Coffee Morning. The Chairman spoke for all the members by saying that it always seemed to be a very successful event as it was and that, unless a really innovative suggestion was made, we should continue with it in its current format. Mrs Davies added that there would be a cake stall and that cakes for sale should be brought on the day, while items for the Tombola should be given to Mrs Watson, or herself at any time. Any prizes for the Draw should also be given to her.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>All</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>All</b></p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p><b><u>ITEM 8 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p> <p>16. <b><u>Date of the Next Meeting</u></b>. The Chairman reminded members that there would be no meeting in December. The next Meeting would be held at the Siward James Centre on Tuesday, 31 January 2017.</p> <p>17. Mrs Bowden asked that it be recorded that she and the members of the Group were very grateful to the Chairman and Secretary for all their work on behalf of the village during the course of the year. The Chairman replied by thanking Mrs Bowden and members for all their support.</p> <p>18. There being no further business, the Chairman wished all members a very happy Christmas and New Year and declared the Meeting closed at 8.00pm.</p>	

Cllr KA Mitcheson  
Chairman

31 January 2017

# Bodenham Flood Protection Group

Invite you to a

## **COFFEE MORNING**

On Saturday 4th February 2017

at Seward James Centre

From 10.00am to 12 noon



**Cake Stall, Tombola and Draw  
Exhibition of photographs from  
the Village by the**

Bodenham Flood Protection Group

**Free Admission**

**All Are Welcome.**

**For more information contact Liz Davies: 797628**