

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP

MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 27 MAY 2014

ITEM	ACTION
<u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u>	
<p>1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the May Meeting and gave a summary of the past month:</p> <p>a. <u>Rainfall.</u> Although there had been a fair amount of rain recently, the ground had been dry enough to soak it up and the watercourses have been clear so that the rain had been able to get away quickly. There had therefore been virtually no change in the level of the Millcroft Brook which had remained only a few inches deep throughout the month.</p> <p>b. <u>Miss Lorna Price.</u> Miss Lorna Price, a member of the Group, had been in a serious car accident. She had been in touch to say that she would not be able to attend meetings and working party sessions until she is better. The Chairman had passed on the best wishes of the Group to her and asked that she keep the Secretary informed of her progress and when she plans to return home. (Afternote: Mrs Burnill visited Miss Price on behalf of the Group and gave her a Get Well Card and Orchid and passed on everyone's wishes for a speedy recovery.)</p> <p>2. <u>Apologies.</u> There were 25 members present and apologies were received from Mr Griffiths, Mr Pritchard, Mr and Mrs Bowden, Mr and Mrs Brown, Mr and Mrs Clark, Mr and Mrs Schwartz, Mrs Burnill, Miss Easson and Miss Price.</p>	
<u>ITEM 2 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u>	
<p>3. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the April Meeting which had been circulated earlier with the Agenda and which were also available in hard copy on the tables. Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Mr Tilford, seconded by Mrs Bick and agreed.</p>	
<u>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u>	
<p>4. <u>Sandbags.</u> The Chairman reminded members that the Secretary had sent out an email to everyone asking those with sandbags on their properties to check the sandbags' condition and, if they need empty ones to replace broken bags, to let her know. There had been a slow response and therefore the Secretary would send out another reminder in June. He added that, if anyone who has sandbags is unable to undertake this task, they should let the Secretary know and she will contact other members of the Group to provide assistance.</p> <p>5. <u>Herefordshire Council.</u> The Chairman noted that there was no change in the outstanding issues with Herefordshire Council; he was still waiting for a response about the Ketch Lane and Pugh's Field culverts and also about the Group's offer to help the Council and Balfour Beatty with monitoring and signing road closures when the Ketch Lane</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>All</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>junction is flooded.</p> <p>6. <u>Environment Agency Visit to Survey the Relief Channel.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman recalled that at the March Meeting he had reported that the Environment Agency had agreed to carry out a survey of the relief channel. The hope is that this will demonstrate the effectiveness of the relief channel in carrying any excess water coming down the Brook, or backing up from the River Lugg, onto the flood plain and away from the Village. This, in turn, may result in updated Environment Agency maps which may more accurately indicate the flood risk to the local area.</p> <p>b. The survey had been planned for the previous Thursday (22 May), but, because of the bad weather and the Environment Agency's consequent commitments elsewhere, had to be postponed. It is hoped that the survey will now be carried out in early June, but he was still waiting for confirmation of the date.</p> <p>c. Mr Stephens asked if the River Lugg Drainage Board could be requested to cut the hedges in Mr Pugh's field at the rear of Orchard Close this year. Owing to the bad weather in 2013, the contractor's vehicles had been unable to get into the field and cut the hedges then; as a result they are quite overgrown and falling into the ditch. The Secretary agreed to talk to Mr Harrison, the Engineer for the River Lugg Drainage Board, about this. (Afternote: The Secretary has spoken to Mr Harrison and he will talk to the contractors about the issue. Mr Harrison also visited the Secretary to hand over the 5 litre container with Roundup Biactive for the Group. He has stated, both verbally and in writing, that Mr Stephens is authorised on behalf of the RLIDB to spray the watercourses in the village on their behalf.)</p> <p>7. <u>Convergent Volunteers Project.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman recalled that at the last Meeting he had reported that he had been contacted by a researcher who wanted to interview him by telephone. That had been on 28 April and the researcher was Mr Christopher Smith from Warwick University's Business School, who is engaged in a DEFRA-funded project looking at the involvement of volunteers in flood response. On 9 May Mr Smith had conducted a 1¼ hour long telephone interview with the Chairman and Secretary seeking their views on how best use can be made of 'convergent volunteers', <i>i.e.</i> those volunteers who turn up without prior warning to offer their help during a flooding emergency.</p> <p>b. Mr Smith had subsequently been in touch again and had said that he and a colleague would like to visit one of the Group's working party sessions and the social get together afterwards. The Chairman suggested Friday, 27 June as a possible date.</p> <p>8. <u>Annual Report to the Parish Council.</u> The Chairman confirmed that the BFPG's Annual Report had been submitted to the Parish Council on Monday, 12 May.</p> <p>9. <u>BFPG Trailer Repair.</u> The Chairman reported that he had begun the repair of the Group's trailer. He had removed the two sections of its roof by grinding off the bolts which secured them to the roof frame, but had not been able to make any further progress as yet.</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Mr Stephens</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>This was because the frames were so large that he had to work on them outside. This had been hampered by the recent bad weather and by his other commitments.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 4 - TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p> <p>10. The Chairman reported that there had been no changes to the account since the last Meeting and the current balance therefore remained at £2,827.07.</p> <p>11. It had been suggested at the last Working Party session that there was a need for the Group to purchase further tools for working on the brooks. It was agreed that the "Chillington" range seemed to provide the quality of tool required and the Secretary agreed to look into this. It was proposed by Mr Rice, seconded by Cllr Avery and agreed by the Meeting that Group funds should be used to purchase a mattock and three heavy duty hoes at a cost not to exceed £100. (Afternote: The Secretary and Mr Stephens have now purchased these items on behalf of the BFPG at a cost of £92.70).</p>	<p>Secretary Treasurer</p>
<p><u>ITEM 5 – FUTURE PLANS</u></p> <p>12. <u>Working Party Session - Friday, 9 May 2014</u>. The Chairman noted that fifteen members had turned up at Millcroft Farm and had not only cleared the silt from the rear of the Ketch Lane culvert but also continued work along the Brook to remove the build-up of debris and vegetation opposite the Millcroft Farm orchard. The two drainage pipes from Ketch Lane into the Brook need jetting and it is planned to do this at a future working party. The old (East) Ketch Lane culvert will also need further investigation and clearance when the water level in the Brook is a bit lower. In addition, Mr Stephens suggested that the ditch in Mr Pugh's field at the rear of Orchard Close should be sprayed. (Afternote: Now that the Roundup Bi Active has been received from the River Lugg Internal Drainage Board this will be done as soon as the ditch is dry).</p> <p>13. <u>Future Working Party Sessions</u>. It was agreed that the next working party sessions will be on:</p> <p>a. Friday, 30 May – 6.00pm at Millcroft Farm. The aim will be to continue the work on the Millcroft Brook. If sufficient members turn up, it would also be helpful to start assisting any members with sandbags who are unable to check and renew them by themselves. Those currently requesting help are Mr and Mrs Wain who need 12 of their heavy sandbags re-bagged. Mr Dowler has volunteered to lead this particular activity when he is next present.</p> <p>b. Friday, 13 June – 6.00pm. This will probably be at Millcroft Farm to continue the work on the Brook, but the Secretary will confirm the details by email.</p> <p>c. Friday, 27 June – Time and Venue to be confirmed. The Chairman noted that this was the date on which Mr Smith and his colleague from Warwick University would like to visit. It was agreed that it would be a suitable date for a working party session. The details of where members should meet and what tasks they should tackle could be decided at the next BFPG Meeting.</p> <p>14. <u>Annual Barbecue at 6.00pm on Saturday, 28 June at Willow Cottage, Maund Bryan</u>. The Chairman said that, owing to another commitment, Mrs Schwartz was unable to be present but had sent him a statement to be read at the Meeting. The main points were</p>	<p>Mr Stephens</p> <p>Mr Dowler</p> <p>Secretary</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>that:</p> <p>a. She thanked all those who had offered help with barbecue equipment, marquees, tables, plates and cutlery.</p> <p>b. Mr and Mrs Stephens had very kindly agreed to provide sausages for the event.</p> <p>c. Mrs Schwartz would provide all the burger buns and salads. Those attending who did not wish to partake of the Canadian style BBQ spare ribs or the sausages should bring their own meat. She also asked that puddings and drinks should also be brought by those attending.</p> <p>d. All cars should be parked on the Common next to Willow Cottage and, so far as possible, members should share cars.</p> <p>e. Mrs Schwartz would like all orders for the Canadian style spare ribs as soon as possible. The cost would be £2.50 per rack (a rack being about 1lb in weight).</p> <p>f. Members should let Mrs Schwartz know by 20 June at the latest whether or not they planned to attend the Barbecue. (<u>Afternote</u>. The Secretary sent out a reminder immediately after the Meeting to all members asking them to contact Mrs Schwartz to state if they were attending the event and whether or not they wished to have the spare ribs and sausages.)</p> <p>g. Mrs Schwartz will update the Group on the final arrangements for the Barbecue at the next Meeting on 24 June.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>Mrs Schwartz</p>
<p><u>ITEM 6 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p>	
<p>15. <u>Annual General Meeting</u>. The Chairman again reminded the Group that the AGM will be on Tuesday, 26 August 2014 and at this he would be seeking nominations for all the various BFPG appointments and also any proposals for changes to the Group’s Constitution. The Secretary had already been in contact with the Area Representatives to find out if they would be willing to serve in their capacity again for another year.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 7 – DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</u></p>	
<p>16. The next Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 24 June at 7.30pm at the Seward James Centre.</p> <p>17. There being no further business the meeting ended at 8pm.</p>	

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP
2015/16 Area Reps and Committee List

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Incumbent</u>	<u>Proposed Incumbent</u>
Chairman:	Cllr Tony Mitcheson	Cllr Tony Mitcheson
Treasurer:	Mrs Babs Mitcheson	Mrs Babs Mitcheson
Operations Manager:	Cllr Tony Mitcheson	Cllr Tony Mitcheson
Secretary:	Mrs Babs Mitcheson	Mrs Babs Mitcheson
<u>The Moor:</u>		
The Moor Road:	Mr Tony Clark	
Orchard Close:	Mr Mike Stephens/ Mr Robert Pritchard	Mr Mike Stephens Mr Robert Pritchard
Chapel Lane:	Mr Robert Pritchard	Mr Robert Pritchard
Brockington Road: (2 -31& 35)	Mr Simon Dowler	
Brockington Road: (1, 32-34, 36 – 42A)	Mrs Rebecca Burnill	Mrs Rebecca Burnill
Brockington Road (43- 54):	Mrs Gwen Bowden	Mrs Gwen Bowden
Siward James:	Mrs Gillian Baines	
Ash Grove Close:	Mrs Jean Fryer	Mrs Jean Fryer
Ash Grove View:	Mr David Harris	Mr David Harris
Ash Grove View:	Cllr Alec Avery	Cllr Alec Avery
Millcroft Road:	Miss Barbara Gibson	Miss Barbara Gibson
<u>Bodenham Village:</u>		
Bridge to War Memorial:		
The Forge	Mr Mike Mullenger	Mr Mike Mullenger
Church and Bodenham Village:	Mr David Ayshford Sanford Mr Mike Mullenger	Mr David Ayshford Sanford Mr Mike Mullenger