

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



**MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S
MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 30 MAY 2017**

ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed members to the May Meeting and said that it would come as no surprise to members that he had nothing to report on the subject of flood risk. The hot dry weather we had enjoyed recently had meant that water levels had remained very low.</p> <p>2. The Chairman went on to say that most of those present would be aware of the death of a member of the Group, Mrs Barbara Wilson. She had died on 6 May after a short illness and the BFPG had been well represented at her funeral on 23 May. He was sure that members would join him in expressing their condolences to her husband, Barry, also a member of the Group.</p> <p>3. <u>Apologies.</u> There were 17 members present and apologies were received from Cllr Baker, Mr and Mrs Bowden, Mrs Burnill, Mr Maxwell, Mr and Mrs Schwartz, and Mr and Mrs Watson.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 2 - MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></p> <p>4. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the April 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 Burnill, seconded by Miss Price and agreed.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>5. <u>Sandbag Container.</u> The Chairman said that now that good weather had arrived for painting the sandbag container, so too had the usual mass of summer commitments, not to mention the Neighbourhood Plan and other tasks. He and the Secretary were fully committed for the coming week, but Tuesday, 6 June and Wednesday, 7 June might be free and, if the weather held, it might be possible to make a start on painting the container then. It was agreed that Wednesday, 7 June would be the better day, with a start time of 10.00am, and the Secretary would e-mail members to confirm when the weather forecast was clearer.</p>	Secretary
<p><u>ITEM 4 - TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p> <p>6. On behalf of the Treasurer, the Chairman reported that the balance of the Account at the end of April had stood at £4,080.40. There had been only one item</p>	

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<p>of expenditure during the past month, the £92.40 for Hammerite paint which had been reported at the last Meeting. Therefore, the balance of the account at the end of May now stood at £3,988.00.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 5 – SANDBAG CAGE AT THE PARISH HALL</u></p> <p>7. The Chairman reported that at some time before 28 April the sandbag cage at the Parish Hall had been vandalised. New sandbags in the cage had been torn open and sand from them had been thrown over the nearby window and along the bottom of the adjacent door preventing it from being opened. As soon as she heard about the incident, the Secretary had been to see the damage and had cleared away as much of the sand as possible. However, the Parish Hall Management Committee had asked that the cage be removed while they considered other measures to improve security at the Hall, such as the installation of CCTV.</p> <p>8. The Chairman remarked that, as it happened, this fitted in with the Group’s existing plans for the cage. The sandbags in the single cage on the school car park had proved inadequate for Bodenham Village in the winter of 2013-14 and emergency action had been required to move extra sandbags there. The aim had therefore long been to move the cage at the Parish Hall to the school car park to double the number of sand bags available there. This would require some preparation and the Secretary has already been in contact with Mr Pritchard to find out whether he would be able to provide the necessary transport. He has said that he would be willing to do so and it is now a question of when to complete the move. This would be a suitable task for a working party and the Chairman said that he would return to the subject in a minute.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 6 – FUTURE EVENTS</u></p> <p>9. <u>Working Parties.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman thanked all those who had taken part in the working parties on 27 April, 4 May and 18 May. During the first session the sandbags in the cage at the school car park had been repaired and replaced where necessary, giving a total there of 77 bags. Whilst the cage was empty, members had also taken the opportunity to remove the broken pallet under the cage, replace it with a new one and put some slabs kindly donated by Mr Maxwell under the pallet to give greater support to take the weight of the sandbags.</p> <p>b. The next working party on 4 May saw the start of the work on the Millcroft Brook, beginning at the Golf Course and finishing at Brockington Road. Then on 18 May work continued, clearing silt from under the Brockington Road bridge and vegetation further down.</p> <p>10. <u>Future Working Party Dates.</u></p> <p>a. Turning to future working parties, the Chairman said that the first priority was to revisit the question of whether working parties should be held on Thursdays or Fridays. Thursdays had not proved to be particularly popular with some of the more active members of the Group, so he asked those present whether it would not be better to return to Friday evenings.</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>Following some discussion, it was agreed that the working party sessions would return to Friday evenings.</p> <p>b. The Chairman said that normally the next date for a working party would be the coming Friday (2 June). Unfortunately, he and the Secretary had another commitment that day, so he suggested that the next session should be held on Friday, 9 June. Depending on whether or not Mr Pritchard was available and also on how many members could attend, one task would be to move the sandbags from the Parish Hall to the school car park and another would be to continue clearing the Millcroft Brook downstream from the Brockington Road bridge.</p> <p>c. It followed that the subsequent working party would then be held on Friday, 23 June and this was agreed. (Afternote: The next working party will take place on Friday, 9 June meeting at 6.00pm meeting in Ash Grove Close for easy access to the Millcroft Brook through Mr Brian Jones' garden at 15, Ash Grove Close. Mr Pritchard has also been contacted and on Friday, 23 June the task be to move the sandbag cage at the Parish Hall to the Bodenham School car park. If sufficient members attended work could also continue on the Millcroft Brook).</p> <p>11. <u>Annual Barbecue</u>. The Chairman reminded members that the next event on the social calendar was the Annual Barbecue on Sunday, 23 July at Millcroft Farm and that this would be preceded by a short garden party. The exact start time had yet to be confirmed, but was likely to be 4.00pm and the aim would be to get the formalities over as informally as possible and to move into the barbecue without delay. The preparations for the event were well in hand, but to help with catering calculations it would be helpful if members could let the Secretary know whether or not they planned to attend, if they had not already done so.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</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 at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 27 June 2017.</p> <p>13. There being no further business the Meeting closed at 7.50pm.</p>	

Cllr KA Mitcheson
Chairman

27 June 2017