

# BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP

## MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP MEETING HELD AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE, AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> JULY 2012

ITEM	ACTION
<p><b><u>AGENDA ITEM 1 – WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN</u></b></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the July Meeting and thanked Rebecca and Tim Burnill for hosting a most excellent Flood Group Barbecue the previous Saturday. A vote of thanks to the hosts was proposed by Mr Nickols and seconded by Mr Dowler. In his absence Mr Stephens was also thanked not only for his cooking skills but also for providing the barbecue equipment. In addition, thanks were given to Mr George and Mr Nicolson for providing the tables and helping to set up and take down all the garden furniture.</p> <p>2. There were 29 members present at the Meeting and apologies were received from Mr Sebbage, Mr Stephens, Mrs Bick, Mrs Dowler, and Ms Easson.</p>	
<p><b><u>AGENDA ITEM 2 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b></p> <p>3. Approval of the Minutes of the June Meeting was proposed by Mr Rice, seconded by Mr George and agreed.</p>	
<p><b><u>AGENDA ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p>4. <b><u>Project Bodenham Update.</u></b> The Project is very nearly complete with just two properties waiting to be completed. The Secretary has been in contact with UK Flood Barriers Limited and asked to be given a date when the work is likely to be finished.</p> <p>5. <b><u>Flood Warning Telemetry System.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman noted that the Flood Warning Telemetry System had now operated successfully on two occasions. In particular, the second event on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July could have been serious as the Millcroft Brook rose from 0.5m in depth to 1.4m in just 45 minutes. The Chairman remarked that this showed how important it was not to let our guard slip and become complacent.</p> <p>b. Most of the e-mail addresses and mobile phone numbers given to Hydro-Logic had been successfully used for alerts on 18<sup>th</sup> July. However, the Chairman said that now was a good time to review how the early warning system had worked. He reminded Area Representatives that the alerts were not just for their personal information; it was essential that they wasted no time in relaying the warnings to any other residents in their area who might be affected</p>	

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<p>by the rising water level in the brook, and especially to those residents who are on their “Emergency Help” list. He added that, if anyone who is not an Area Representative and on the early warning list held by Hydro-Logic, but felt that they should be, they should speak to the Secretary and give her their contact details. It was also important that, if an Area Representative was going to be away from home for any length of time, they should notify the Secretary of their absence.</p> <p>c. It was generally agreed that the “buddy system” needed to be better organised so that the Secretary has a list of names of those that Area Representatives have arranged to be their “buddy” to assist with putting up barriers. This is especially important if they have a large number of people on their “Emergency Help” list, or if they themselves are likely to be away from Bodenham. Mr Harris noted that it had taken an hour to put up his barriers. Mrs Gibson also said that it had taken her longer than anticipated. However, both agreed that with more practice and allowing for greater ease of access to the equipment, it should not take quite so long in future.</p> <p>d. The Chairman emphasised that all residents who have flood protection equipment should practise actually installing it and know how long it would take them to completely secure their property in an emergency. He reminded members that two of the tasks for the next few months were developing an Emergency Plan and testing it. With properties so spread out around the Village this would probably take the form of a small exercise with monitors to “test” each road in turn. It was agreed that this would be very useful.</p> <p>6. <b><u>AGM (Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> August) – Election of Committee Members and Area Representatives.</u></b> The Chairman reminded the Meeting that the list of those who had volunteered to be Area Representatives for 2012/13 was attached to the Agenda. However, if anyone not currently shown also wished to offer their services for any of the positions, they should let the Secretary know. The list would not be closed until 15<sup>th</sup> August. (<b><u>Afternote.</u></b> The list is also attached to these Minutes).</p> <p>7. <b><u>Visit of the CEO Herefordshire Council.</u></b> The Chairman recalled that Mr Chris Bull, the CEO of Herefordshire Council, had visited the Parish on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> June. This had provided an opportunity to raise with Mr Bull the two issues of the culvert in Mr Pugh’s field and the twin culverts at the Millcroft/Ketch Lane Junction. The Chairman said that, as yet, he had not received any feedback from Herefordshire Council, so he would invite Cllr Jeremy Millar, the Ward Councillor, to seek a response.</p> <p>8. <b><u>Disposal of Second Trailer.</u></b> The Chairman confirmed that the trailer had been sold to Mr Derek Pritchard.</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Chairman</p>
<p><b><u>AGENDA ITEM 4 – EXTERNAL CONTACT</u></b></p> <p>9. <b><u>The Hereford Times.</u></b> The Chairman reported that an article on the telemetry system given to the Village by Mr Hawnt of Hydro-Logic had appeared in <i>The Hereford Times</i> early in the month.</p> <p>10. <b><u>NALC Local Council Review.</u></b> The Chairman said that the anticipated article in the <i>Local Council Review</i> had apparently been published, but he had not yet seen it.</p>	

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<p>11. <b><u>BBC Website</u></b>. An article about the BFPG is currently on the BBC Website to mark the fifth anniversary of the 20 July 2007 floods.</p> <p>12. <b><u>BBC Midlands Today Programme</u></b>. The Chairman reported that BBC Midlands had rung him on 19<sup>th</sup> July about possible participation in a programme about the same anniversary the following day. They had suggested filming a working party in action, but when they heard that, although there was, indeed, a working party session scheduled, this would be during the (Friday) evening, they had rather lost interest. The Chairman had explained that the water in the brooks was in any case too deep for watercourse clearance tasks and that the working party would be concentrating on checking and filling sandbags. He offered to try and get some volunteers together for such a task during the day at a time to suit the BBC. He was told that the producer would make a decision and he would be called back. He had never received the courtesy of such a call.</p>																	
<b><u>AGENDA ITEM 5 - TREASURER'S REPORT</u></b>																	
<p>13. The Treasurer reported that the current balance was £1,808.12. The income and expenditure for July had been:</p> <table data-bbox="199 981 798 1198"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b><u>Income</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anonymous Donation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BBQ Raffle</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£53.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sale of Trailer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donation by Mr Chatwin</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£113.00</b></td> </tr> </table> <table data-bbox="199 1238 798 1310"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b><u>Expenditure</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hoses &amp; pipes for pumps</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£199.82</td> </tr> </table> <p>14. The Treasurer asked for all invoices for expenditure relating to the BFPG Barbecue to be given to him as soon as possible as he had to close the account for presentation at the AGM in August. (<b><u>Afternote</u></b>. The VAT on the hoses and pipes for the two pumps has now been reclaimed and added to the Group's account held by the Parish Clerk. The balance now stands at £1,841.43).</p>	<b><u>Income</u></b>		Anonymous Donation	£20.00	BBQ Raffle	£53.00	Sale of Trailer	£20.00	Donation by Mr Chatwin	£20.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>£113.00</b>	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		Hoses & pipes for pumps	£199.82	<b>All</b>
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<p>15. <b><u>Working Party Dates for August</u></b>.</p> <p>a. The Chairman expressed his thanks to all those who had helped at the last working party session with checking and refilling sandbags and relining the sandbag cages at the Chapel Lane bus stop, at the school car park in Bodenham Village and at the Parish Hall.</p> <p>b. The dates for August are:</p> <p>(1) <b><u>Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 6.30pm</u></b>. Meet at Brockington Road Bridge. The aim is to start work on the Millcroft Brook at Brockington Road. All those who are planning to attend should bring loppers and</p>																	

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<p>wear wellies or waders.</p> <p>(2) <b><u>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm.</u></b> The location will be notified after the 3<sup>rd</sup> August meeting. The Secretary will send out a reminder nearer the date.</p> <p>(3) <b><u>Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm.</u></b> This replaces the Working Party Session that would have taken place on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August as this would clash with a fund raising evening at the Church. As this working party session will take place after the AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> August the venue and tasks will be decided at that Meeting.</p> <p>16. <b><u>Funding for New Box Culvert.</u></b> Mr Tilford had very kindly agreed to look at possible sponsors to help the Group raise sufficient funds to persuade Herefordshire Council to consider providing the new culvert. He reported that he had forwarded these names to the Chairman. The Chairman reminded the Meeting that this was an important project for the Group, albeit a long term one.</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b></p>
<p><b><u>AGENDA ITEM 7 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p>	
<p>17. <b><u>BFPG Bonfire Party.</u></b> The Chairman told members that, owing to another commitment, the date of the Bonfire Party would have to be changed from Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> September. It was agreed that the new date will be Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October. The Secretary will send out notification of this with the Bonfire Poster.</p> <p>18. <b><u>Fly Tipping.</u></b> It was noted that grass cuttings are once again being fly tipped in the Moor Brook near the Smedal Lane junction. The Chairman said that this had been raised with the Parish Council some months ago and that the Parish Clerk had asked for a “No Fly Tipping” sign to be placed there by Herefordshire Council. It was suggested that the Parish Clerk should be asked to bring the issue directly to the attention of the Community Protection Officer. It was also commented that the ditch in Ketch Lane is being used to dump domestic waste. The Chairman agreed that the Parish Lengthsman would be asked to clear the ditch of the rubbish.</p> <p>19. <b><u>Grants.</u></b> The Treasurer told the Meeting that he had tried to get in touch with Herefordshire Council’s Head of Grants only to discover that he was on holiday. He had arranged for his call to be returned when the officer returned to duty.</p> <p>20. There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.08pm.</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Secretary</b></p>

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
**BFPG COMMITTEE AND AREA REPRESENTATIVES**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b>Current Incumbent</b>	<b><u>Agreed to Stand for Nomination for 2012/13</u></b>
<u>Chairman:</u>	Tony Mitcheson	
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Tony Clark	<b>Tony Clark</b>
<u>Secretary:</u>	Babs Mitcheson	
<u>Operations Officer:</u>	Mike Stephens	<b>Mike Stephens</b>
<u>Assistant Operations Officer:</u>	Robin George	<b>Robin George</b>

**Area Representatives**

**The Moor:**

<u>The Moor Road:</u>	Tony Clark	<b>Tony Clark</b>
<u>Orchard Close:</u>	Robert Pritchard	<b>Mike Stephens/ Robert Pritchard</b>
<u>Chapel Lane:</u>	Robert Pritchard	
<u>Brockington Road –North Nos 2 – 30:</u>	Simon Dowler	<b>Simon Dowler</b>
<u>Brockington Road – North Nos 1 – 32 and 32 - 44:</u>	Rebecca Burnill	<b>Rebecca Burnill</b>
<u>Brockington Road – South:</u>	Gwen Bowden	<b>Gwen Bowden</b>
<u>Siward James Close:</u>	Iris Evans	<b>Iris Evans</b>
<u>Ash Grove Close:</u>	Jean Fryer	<b>Jean Fryer</b>
<u>Ash Grove View:</u>	David Harris	<b>David Harris</b>
<u>Millcroft Road:</u>	Barbara Gibson	<b>Barbara Gibson</b>

**Bodenham Village:**

<u>Bridge to War Memorial:</u>	Simon Nickols	<b>Simon Nickols</b>
<u>The Church and Bodenham Village:</u>	David Ayshford-Sanford Mike Mullenger	<b>David Ayshford-Sanford Mike Mullenger</b>

Above are the names and positions held by the current BFPG committee.

Those members who have agreed to have their names put forward for a further year are in red.

If you currently do not hold a position, but would like to put your name forward for any of the posts listed above, please let the Secretary know.

The list will be notified at the forthcoming BFPG Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> July. **The list for nominations will close on 15<sup>th</sup> August.**