

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 30 AUGUST 2016

ITEM	ACTION
<p><u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed members to the Group's Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>2. <u>Apologies.</u> There were 26 members present and apologies were received from Mr Bowden, Mr and Mrs Brown, Mrs Burnill, Mr and Mrs Dowler, Mrs Fryer, Mr Hemming, Mrs Parker, Mr Rice, Mrs Rudge, Mr and Mrs Schwartz, and Mrs Stephens.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 2 – ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND AREA REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2016-17</u></p> <p>3. The Chairman said that he hoped that the election process could be completed as fairly and as quickly as possible. In accordance with the usual procedure he would stand down as Chairman, but, unless members objected, remain in the room while the Secretary conducted the election of the incoming Chairman.</p> <p>4. <u>Election of Chairman.</u> The Secretary took the chair and reminded members that nominations for all appointments had closed on Friday, 12 August 2016. There had been no nominations for Chairman, but Cllr Mitcheson had indicated that he was prepared to remain in post for another year. Cllr Tilford proposed that Cllr Mitcheson be elected for a further year, this was seconded by Miss Gibson and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>5. <u>Election of Secretary.</u> Cllr Mitcheson then resumed the Chair and conducted the election of the Secretary. He informed members that no one had put themselves forward to take on this post, but that the present Secretary had agreed to remain if there were no other contenders. Mrs Watson proposed that Mrs Mitcheson should continue as Secretary, this was seconded by Mr George and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>6. <u>Election of the Operations Officer.</u> The Chairman said that, again, there had been no nominations for the post of Operations Officer. However, he was prepared to continue in that role and he thanked members in general, and Mr Stephens in particular, for the support they had given him at working party sessions over the past year. Mrs Clark proposed that Cllr Mitcheson should remain as Operations Officer; this was seconded by Miss Price and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>7. <u>Election of the Treasurer.</u> The Chairman said that, in the absence of any other nominations, Mrs Mitcheson had indicated that she was happy to continue as Treasurer.</p>	

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<p>Mr Sebbage proposed that Mrs Mitcheson should remain as Treasurer; this was seconded by Mrs Davies and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>8. <u>Election of Area Representatives.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman said that, apart from Cllr Clark, who has decided to stand down as the Area Representative for The Moor, all the other Area Representatives had agreed to serve for a further year. Mr Andrew Maxwell had very kindly agreed to be the new Area Representative for The Moor. The Chairman then asked for all the Area Representatives to be formally elected. This was proposed by Mrs Avery, second by Miss Easson and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>b. On behalf of members, the Chairman thanked Cllr Clark for all his work as Area Representative and for walking the brook over many years. He noted that walking the brook was not part of the formal structure of the Group and was therefore not subject to election.</p> <p>c. The Chairman went on to thank most warmly all the Area Representatives, and members generally, for all that they had done, and continued to do, for the Group.</p> <p>9. <u>The Group's Constitution.</u> Finally, the Chairman noted for the record that no amendments had been proposed for the Constitution, which therefore remained unchanged. However, he thought that it would be prudent to review both it and the Area Representatives' Responsibilities over the course of the winter and present the documents with any changes in the New Year.</p> <p>10. A list of those elected at the Meeting to serve during 2016-17 is attached at Annex A to these Minutes.</p>	
<u>ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u>	
<p>11. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the July 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 Mr Wilson and agreed.</p>	
<u>ITEM 4 – MATTERS ARISING</u>	
<p>12. <u>Annual Barbecue.</u> On behalf of members the Chairman thanked Mr and Mrs Stephens very much indeed for an excellent barbecue at their small holding in Rowberry Lane. It had been a very well organised, well attended and most enjoyable occasion.</p> <p>13. <u>Visit by Mr Bill Wiggin MP and the Environment Agency.</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman reported that on Friday, 5 August the Group's working party session had been visited by Mr Wiggin, the MP for North Herefordshire. There had also been two visitors from the Environment Agency, Mr Jason Walker who has taken over from Mr Dan Trewin in the Flood Resilience Team at</p>	

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<p>Tewkesbury, and Mr Mark Bowers who has taken over from Mr Anthony Perry as the Flood & Coastal Risk Manager for the West Midlands Area based in Shrewsbury. A fourth visitor had been Mrs Jackie Whibley from the Withington & Cross Keys Flood Action Group who had been keen to meet the new members of the Environment Agency Flood Resilience Team for this area.</p> <p>b. After the working party had finished, Mr Jason Walker had presented the BFPG with nine high visibility vests kindly donated by the Environment Agency. Mr Wiggin had been happy to take part in the photograph opportunity and it, together with a short description of the event, had been sent to <i>The Hereford Times</i> as well as to the Environment Agency and to Mr Robbie Craig at DEFRA. (Afternote. The article was published on Page 18 of the Hereford Times dated 25 August 2016).</p>	
<p>14. <u>The Orchard Close Drainage System and Ketch Lane Culverts</u></p> <p>a. The Chairman told the Meeting that at the 5 August visit by Mr Wiggin, Mr Walker and Mr Bowers, the opportunity had been taken to show them the Ketch Lane culverts and to brief them on the continuing problems which these caused the Group. He had also taken the opportunity to brief them and Cllr Baker, who had also been present during the visit, on the long-standing issue of the Orchard Close culvert. It had been agreed that these were multi-agency issues which Herefordshire Council did not have the resources to tackle alone and the Chairman had been asked to provide a full brief on each issue as the first step in an initiative to resolve them. This he had done.</p> <p>b. The next step had been to hold a meeting with Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) which Cllr Baker had kindly arranged. This had taken place at the Council's offices in Plough Lane on Wednesday, 24 August and had resulted in a very positive outcome in that Herefordshire Council had agreed to commission BBLP to investigate possible options and costs for making improvements. The Chairman stressed that this task was not in BBLP's current work schedule and it would therefore be some months before it would be completed. However, Herefordshire Council had undertaken to call a second meeting when the outcome of BBLP's investigation was known. All this represented a very important step forward for the Group and he thanked Cllr Baker for arranging the meeting and thereby succeeding where both his predecessors had not.</p> <p>c. The Chairman concluded by commenting that none of this progress would have been possible without the continuing support shown by members themselves. It had been the fact that Bodenham had its own proactive Flood Protection Group that had secured £160K of Environment Agency funding for property level protection for 34 houses in 2011-12; it had been the same factor that had prompted Mr Rod Hawnt to donate the early warning telemetry system to Bodenham Moor and that had secured the award to the Group of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2015; and it would be the same demonstration of local resolve which would stand the Group in good stead as this latest initiative progressed.</p>	
<p>15. <u>Hedge Trimmer and Chain Saw.</u> The Chairman thanked Mr and Mrs Schwartz for their kind donation of a hedge trimmer and a chain saw which had now been safely received. The Secretary had now listed them in the List of Equipment held by the BFPG</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
and a copy of this has been sent to the Parish Clerk for his records.	
<p><u>ITEM 5 – EXTERNAL CONTACTS</u></p> <p>16. <u>The Role of Gender during Natural Disasters in the UK.</u> The Chairman reported that on 9 August the Secretary had received an e-mail from Ms Naomi Harper, a MA student at University College London, who had been given the Secretary’s name by Mrs Mary Dhonau. Ms Harper is researching the role of gender during natural disasters in the UK to see whether there are underlying disparities in how women are affected by floods. She had found that in developing countries women are often worse off after a disaster than men and she wondered whether the same happens in the UK. She therefore wanted to chat to women affected by flooding to identify ways in which they feel more or less affected than men. A telephone interview had duly taken place on 13 August between Ms Harper and the Secretary.</p> <p>17. <u>Effect of Flood Re on Insurance.</u> On 11 August the Secretary had received a telephone call and also an e-mail from Mr Cameron Penny, Head of Financial Services at Hanover Communications International Ltd, who was looking for case studies of people who have benefitted from Flood Re backed insurance. The Secretary had spoken of her own dealings with property insurance companies and had also circulated his details to members so that they could respond directly to him, if they wished.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 6 - TREASURER’S REPORT</u></p> <p>18. The Chairman reported that there had been no income or expenditure in August and therefore the balance remained the same at £3,540.07. This would, of course, be increased by a further £66.28 when the Parish Clerk had received the VAT refund.</p> <p>19. The Chairman presented the Treasurer’s Accounts for the last 12 months and Mr Harris proposed that they be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 7 – FUTURE EVENTS</u></p> <p>20. <u>Recent Working Parties.</u></p> <p>a. <u>Friday, 5 August.</u> This was the occasion on which the Group had been visited by Mr Bill Wiggin MP and representatives of the Environment Agency and the Chairman thanked the 24 members who had taken part and continued work on the Millcroft Brook alongside the orchard at Millcroft Farm.</p> <p>b. <u>Friday, 19 August.</u> The Chairman went on to thank the 14 members who had further progressed the clearance of the Brook towards the Ketch Lane culverts. Mr Stephens and three members had also begun to clear the mass of vegetation immediately downstream of the culverts, as well as removing some of the silt from the old (east) culvert itself.</p> <p>21. <u>Future Working Parties.</u></p> <p>a. <u>Thursday, 1 September.</u> The Chairman said that, in order to give</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>members adequate advance notice of the next working party, the Secretary had already sent out an e-mail proposing that it should be held on Thursday, 1 September, meeting at Millcroft Farm at 6.00pm. He asked members for approval and this was agreed.</p> <p>b. Thursday, 15 September. The Chairman proposed that there should be a working party session on Thursday, 15 September, again meeting at Millcroft Farm at 6.00pm. He said that he hoped that this would allow work on the Millcroft Brook and the Ketch Lane culverts to be completed.</p> <p>c. Subsequent Working Parties. The Chairman went on to explain that he and the Secretary would not be available for a working party session on Thursday, 29 September. The end of the working party season was fast approaching, there was still quite a lot of work to be done, and it was important not to lose opportunities for completing it. He therefore asked members whether they would prefer to have a session on Thursday, 22 September, or Thursday, 6 October, or indeed both. Mr Stephens said that he was prepared to lead a session on Thursday, 29 September in the absence of the Chairman and Secretary. After discussion, it was agreed that a working party would take place on Thursday 22 September, Thursday 29 September and Thursday, 6 October. Depending on the progress to be made on 15 September and how much work remained to be done, a decision would be made where members should meet on these three occasions.</p> <p>22. Annual Bonfire Party. The Chairman reminded members that the Bonfire Party at Millcroft Farm would be on Saturday, 8 October, starting at 6.00pm. As had become traditional mulled 'surprise' and light refreshments in the form of sausage rolls would be provided, but members were entirely free to bring their own drink and food, if they wished. For catering purposes it would be helpful if members who planned to attend could let the Secretary know by no later than Saturday 1 October. As a reminder the Secretary would send out the attached poster.</p>	<p>All Secretary</p> <p>All Secretary</p>
<p><u>ITEM 8 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p>23. Date of the Next Meeting. The Chairman said that the next Meeting would be held at the Siward James Centre on Tuesday, 27 September 2016 at 7.30pm.</p> <p>24. There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.10pm.</p>	<p>All</p>

Cllr KA Mitcheson
Chairman

27 September 2016

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



Chairman: Cllr Tony Mitcheson
Treasurer: Mrs Babs Mitcheson
Operations Manager: Cllr Tony Mitcheson
Secretary: Mrs Babs Mitcheson

The Moor:

The Moor Road: Mr Andrew Maxwell: 797946
Orchard Close/Chapel Lane: Mr Robert Pritchard: 797428
Brockington Road (2 -31& 35): Mr Simon Dowler: 797363
Brockington Road (1, 32-34, 36 – 42A): Mrs Rebecca Burnill: 797823
Brockington Road (43- 54): Mrs Gwen Bowden: 797868
Siward James: The Warden: Mrs Victoria Paterson : 797412
Ash Grove Close: Mrs Jean Fryer: 797338
Ash Grove View: Mr David Harris: 797575
Ash Grove View: Cllr Alec Avery: 797744
Millcroft Road: Miss Barbara Gibson: 797643

Bodenham Village:

Bridge to War Memorial:
Mr Mike Mullenger: 797199
Church and Bodenham Village:
Mr David Ayshford Sanford: 797549

Maund Bryan:

Mr Philip Broomhead 797167

Bodenham Flood Protection Group Meeting Dates 2017

These Meetings are open to ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

All Meetings, unless otherwise notified will be held on the last Tuesday of the month at Siward James Centre starting at 7.30 pm

January	31st	July	25th
February	28th	August	29th - AGM
March	28th	September	26th
April	26th	October	31st
May	30th	November	28th
June	27th		

If you are unable to attend or have points which you would like to be raised at the meeting, please contact the Secretary, Mrs Babs Mitcheson on 797170

Or by email at BabsMitcheson@aol.com

The above dates will appear in the appropriate month's Bodenham Newsletter and on the Parish Website.

BONFIRE PARTY



Saturday 8 October 2016

Starting 6 pm

AT MILLCROFT FARM

Sausage Rolls and Mulled Surprise! provided

**BRING YOUR OWN FOOD AND DRINK IF YOU WANT
SOMETHING ELSE!**

**If you and any family or friends plan to attend please let me
know**

BabsMitcheson@aol.com or

01568-797170