

# BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP

**MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE  
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 26 AUGUST 2014**

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b><u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u></b></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the AGM and reminded members that it was the sixth Annual General Meeting of the Bodenham Flood Protection Group, or the seventh if the inaugural meeting was included.</p> <p>2. In summarising the past month, he said that, although there had been some spells of rain, including that from ex-hurricane Bertha, the water had got away quickly and barely affected the level in the Millcroft Brook.</p> <p>3. <b><u>Apologies.</u></b> There were 35 members present and apologies were received from Mr Bowden, Mr Minchin, Mr Rice, Mr and Mrs Brown, Mrs Burnill, Mrs Parker and Miss Easson.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 2 – ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND AREA REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2014-15</u></b></p> <p>4. The Chairman said that he hoped that this year's election process would not take long. As the list of posts attached to the Agenda indicated, all those currently occupying posts had, without exception, kindly agreed to continue serving in them. However, he reminded members that, as the BFPG is a sub-group of the Parish Council, its election procedure had to conform to that used by the Council. 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>5. <b><u>Election of Chairman.</u></b> The Secretary took the chair and reminded members that nominations for all appointments had closed on 31 July 2014. There had been no nominations for Chairman, but Cllr Mitcheson had indicated that he was prepared to remain in post for another year. Mr Tilford proposed that Cllr Mitcheson should remain as Chairman; this was seconded by Mr Clark and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>6. <b><u>Election of Secretary.</u></b> 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. Mr Dowler proposed that Mrs Mitcheson should remain as Secretary; this was seconded by Mrs Griffiths and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>7. <b><u>Election of Operations Officer.</u></b> 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 Griffiths proposed that Cllr Mitcheson should remain as Operations Officer; this was seconded by Mr Sebbage and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p>	

	<b>Action</b>
<p>8. <b><u>Election of the Treasurer.</u></b> The Chairman recalled that some time ago Mr Clark had indicated that he would be willing to return to the role of Treasurer. However, Mrs Mitcheson had said that, since the role was not at all onerous, she was happy to continue in it and, as members were aware, Mr Clark had volunteered to take on two more valuable roles in charge of sandbags and walking the brook. Mr Tilford proposed that Mrs Mitcheson should remain as Treasurer; this was seconded by Mr Pritchard and unanimously approved by the Meeting.</p> <p>9. <b><u>Election of Area Representatives.</u></b> The Chairman said that, as he had already stated, all the Area Representatives had agreed to serve for a further year. They would, however, have to be formally elected. It was proposed by Mrs Watson, seconded by Mrs Evans and unanimously approved by the Meeting that all the Area Representatives should continue in post for a further year.</p> <p>10. The Chairman warmly thanked all the Area Representatives, and members generally, for all that they had done, and continued to do, for the Group.</p> <p>11. A list of those elected at the Meeting to serve during 2014-15 is attached at Annex A to these Minutes.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b></p> <p>12. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the July 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 Mrs Clark, seconded by Miss Price and agreed.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 4 – MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p>13. <b><u>Sandbags.</u></b> The Chairman confirmed that the 150 sandbags promised by the Balfour Beatty Locality Steward, Miss Donna Tregenza, had been delivered to the Parish Hall at the beginning of the month. Because the locks on some of the sandbag cages had seized a new set had to be purchased together with an additional set of keys. These extra keys had cost £7.04 (with a 10% discount) and the padlocks £19.78 (also discounted). Therefore the total cost had been £26.82. Retrospective approval for these purchases was proposed by Mr Dowler, seconded by Mr Harris and agreed.</p> <p>14. <b><u>Herefordshire Council.</u></b> The Chairman noted that, again, there had been 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 junction is flooded.</p> <p>15. <b><u>Environment Agency Visit to Survey the Relief Channel.</u></b> The Chairman reported that the Environment Agency had finally surveyed the relief channel on 7 August. It remained to be seen whether the data they collected would make any difference to the Agency’s mapping of the local flood risk and, if so, how long this would take to appear.</p> <p>16. <b><u>Orchard Close Drainage System.</u></b> The Chairman reported that he had again spoken to Mr Harrison, the Engineer to the River Lugg Internal Drainage Board (RLIDB), about the cutting of the hedges along the drainage system, but not yet to Cllr Millar who</p>	

	<b>Action</b>
<p>had been away.</p> <p>17. <b><u>BFPG Trailer Repair.</u></b> The Chairman reminded members that they had kindly agreed at the July Meeting to increase the amount allowable for repairs to the trailer from £60 to “no more than £80”. In the end the total amount had come to £72.96 and this was shown in the August account.</p> <p>18. <b><u>Annual Barbecue.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman recalled that at the July Meeting the suggestion had been raised once again that the Annual Barbecue should be paid for out of Group funds. He stated that he could not personally be a party to such an arrangement as any funds raised by the Group were public funds and given to the Group for its flood protection work, not entertainment. He recalled the suggestions at the July Meeting which were:</p> <p>(1) To retain the present system where, in practice, the cost of the event is borne rather unevenly, with the host and one or two individuals making very generous contributions in the form of the venue, tentage, food and drink – not to mention time and hard work in organising the occasion – while others contributed relatively much less.</p> <p>(2) To change the Annual Barbecue to a ticket-only event. The price of the tickets would be set to pay for all the expenses and those attending would then not have to bring any ‘donation’ in the form of food or drink. This would avoid any issue of fairness where some members – particularly the hosts - might find themselves contributing much more than others. He personally felt that this might destroy the event’s present character of a social gathering of like-minded people each bringing their own choice of food and drink to make a shared contribution to a relaxed and enjoyable evening.</p> <p>(3) To raise funds specifically to pay for the Annual Barbecue. This money might come from specific donations or from raffles, tombola or other initiatives clearly publicised as being for entertainment, rather than work-related, expenses. Any funds raised would be held separately in the Account. Indeed, the Treasurer had been given exactly such a donation towards the recent Barbecue and, since neither the hosts nor those providing most of the food on that occasion would accept the money, she had already opened a separate column in the Account. Any other entertainment-specific amounts could be added to this.</p> <p>b. Mr Burnill proposed that the Annual Barbecue continue as before whereby a member would agree to host the event and those attending should bring their own contributions of food and drink. The Chairman called for a show of hands and Mr Burnill’s proposal was seconded by Mr Tilford and unanimously agreed.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 5 – EXTERNAL CONTACTS</u></b></p> <p>19. <b><u>BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester.</u></b> The Chairman reported that, although not directly relating to the BFPG, the Secretary had been interviewed by Nicola Goodwin for the BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester early morning programme on Thursday, 14 August</p>	

	<b>Action</b>
<p>on the subject of the proposed developments in Bodenham Moor. She had emphasised that Bodenham was not a NIMBY village, but that there was grave concern that any new development would have to address both serious flooding and sewerage issues.</p> <p>20. <b><u>Northamptonshire Pathfinder Project.</u></b> The Chairman recalled that a number of Pathfinder Projects had been set up in Northamptonshire modelled on what the BFPG had done in Bodenham. He and the Secretary had now been invited by Mrs Mary Dhonau to give a presentation on the BFPG at a Pathfinder event in November. Mr Hawnt remarked that, in fact, these projects were spread across the country, and not just in Northamptonshire, and reflected great credit on the BFPG.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 6 - TREASURER'S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>21. The Chairman reported that since the last Meeting there had been two items of expenditure:</p> <p>a. Repair of the BFPG trailer - £72.96.</p> <p>b. Replacement padlocks and keys for the sandbag cages - £26.82.</p> <p>22. He drew members' attention to the end of year accounts which were attached to the Agenda and noted that the cost of the trailer repairs had been included in them, but that for the padlocks and keys was obviously not included.</p> <p>23. Mr Clark proposed that the Accounts should be accepted; this was seconded by Mr George and agreed.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 7 – FUTURE PLANS</u></b></p> <p>24. <b><u>Working Party Session on Friday, 8 August 2014.</u></b> The Chairman expressed his thanks to all those – some 20 members – who had attended. It had been possible to split the group and undertake two tasks. Under the direction of Mr Stephens, the sandbags which had just been delivered by Balfour Beatty had been used to fill the cages at the Parish Hall and the School car park. Mr Clark had taken another group to the Moor Brook flap valve where they had removed all the debris to allow the flap valve to close; they had also removed as much silt as possible from the culvert.</p> <p>25. <b><u>Future Working Party Sessions.</u></b></p> <p>a. <b><u>Friday, 29 August 2014.</u></b> The Chairman said that the next session would be on Friday, 29 August and he asked members to meet at Orchard Close at 6.00pm. The task would be to clear vegetation from the Orchard Close drainage system. Mr Stephens asked for clarification from RLIDB as to when he could start spraying the ditch. The earlier he is able to spray the better, since any vegetation is still young and more liable to die back.</p> <p>b. <b><u>Friday, 12 September 2014.</u></b> The Chairman proposed that the Group should meet at the entrance to Mr Pugh's field at the rear of Orchard Close and that the pumps should be deployed to jet the Moor Brook flap valve chamber of silt and clear it through. Even though the maize crop had prevented the RLIDB from cutting the hedges around the field, some work could also be done to clear the</p>	<b>All</b>

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<p>ditches which have been previously sprayed by Mr Stephens. Therefore, if sufficient numbers turned up, it would also be possible to start clearing debris from the ditch North of the flap valve.</p> <p>c. <b><u>Friday, 26 September 2014.</u></b> Meeting place and task to be decided.</p> <p>26. <b><u>Annual Bonfire Party.</u></b> The Chairman reminded members that the next event on the Group's social calendar would be the Annual Bonfire Party at Millcroft Farm on <b>Saturday, 27 September, starting at 6.00pm.</b></p>	<b>All</b>
<p><b><u>ITEM 8 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p> <p>27. Mrs Davies informed members that she had booked the Siward James Centre for the 2015 Coffee Morning to be held on Saturday 14 February, St Valentine's Day. More details would be given later. The Secretary agreed to deal with the posters and the notice in the <i>Parish Newsletter</i>.</p>	<b>Secretary</b>
<p><b><u>ITEM 9 – DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</u></b></p> <p>28. The next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 30 September at 7.30pm at the Siward James Centre.</p> <p>29. There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.00pm.</p>	

Cllr KA Mitcheson  
Chairman

30 September 2014

**BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP**  
**2014/15 Area Reps and Committee List**

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

## BFPG Statement of Account September 2013 to August 2014

DATE	PARTICULARS	BANK	DATE	PARTICULARS	BANK
2013 - 2014	Balance c/f	2,058.88	2013 - 2014		
Sep 13			Sep 13	Siward James Hire Jun - Aug	13.50
Oct 13	Quiz Night: Entry 54 @ £6 £324				
	Donation £30				
	Raffle £140				
	<b>Total Quiz Night</b>	<b>494.00</b>	Oct 13	<b>Quiz Night:</b>	
				Refreshments/Prizes/Gifts: Bick	57.59
				Refreshments: Griffiths	19.72
Nov 13			Nov 13	Mr M Stephens PA6AW Herbicide Course	50.00
			Dec 13	Siward James Hire Sep - Nov	27.00
Feb 14	<b>Coffee Morning</b>				
	Cakes £122.50				
	Tombola £51.50				
	Refreshments £100.00				
	Raffle £152.00				
	Donations £104.00				
	<b>Total Coffee Morning</b>	<b>530.00</b>	8 Feb 14	Payment D Pritchard Moving Sandbags	50.00
Mar 14			1 Mar 14	Payment D Pritchard Moving Sandbags	50.00
			2 Apr 14	Siward James Room Hire Jan to Mar 14	18.00
1 Apr 14	Donation 30.00		3 Apr 14		
1 May 14			28 May 14	Chillington Tools	92.70
1 Jun 14			20 Jun 14	Lorna Price Get Well Card & Gift	20.56
27 Jun 14	Donation Annual BBQ 30.00				
11 Jul 14			11 Jul 14	Siward James Room Hire Apr - Jun 14	20.25
1 Aug 14			3 Aug 14	Trailer Repairs	72.96
				<b>Excess Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>2,650.60</b>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,142.88</b>		<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3,142.88</b>