

# BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP

## MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012

ITEM	ACTION
<p><b><u>ITEM 1 – WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN</u></b></p> <p>1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the September Meeting. There were 29 members present, with apologies being received from Mr and Mrs Avery, Mr Mullenger, Mr Nickols, Mr and Mrs Arrowsmith, Mrs Davies and Mrs Sanford.</p> <p>2. The Chairman started by observing that the Village had just endured a second heavy downpour of rain the previous day (Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September), the first having been on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July. These were the only two occasions on which the relief channel had come into operation since the Ketch Lane culverts had been cleared in 2008. He went on to thank all those who had attended the working party session on the evening of Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> September at Brockington Road. This had been particularly successful in clearing the silt and watercress upstream of the bridge and completing the remainder of the work on the stretch of the Millcroft Brook at the rear of Ash Grove Close. He said that he was in no doubt that it was because of all the Group's recent hard work that the Village had been largely unaffected by the bad weather. He concluded by showing members the graph produced by the telemetry system on 24<sup>th</sup> September and pointed out that, although the peak water level then had been high, it had been surpassed on 18<sup>th</sup> July when the Brook had risen even higher and in a much shorter period of time.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 2 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b></p> <p>3. The Chairman asked whether members had any comments on the Minutes of the AGM in August which had been circulated earlier. The Treasurer asked for a correction to show that the VAT refund for the pump hoses had been received and had been included in the accounts he had presented to the Meeting. However, the VAT refund on the black rubber lining for the sandbag cages could not be refunded as the purchase receipt had not contained the details necessary for the Parish Clerk to obtain a VAT refund.</p> <p>4. Subject to that amendment, approval of the Minutes was proposed by Mrs Burnill, seconded by Mrs Bowden and agreed.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p>5. <b><u>Project Bodenham Update.</u></b> The Chairman reported that the last remaining flood protection equipment had been installed and all that was now outstanding was the final inspection by the team from UK Flood Barriers Ltd, the Surveyors JBA Associates, and Amey. This was due to take place on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> September and JBA Associates would contact the owners of those properties to be inspected in advance of the visit. Once this final inspection had taken place, Project Bodenham would be completed.</p>	

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<p>6. <b><u>The ‘Buddy System’.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman remarked that the “Buddy System” was beginning to come together, but that it would take some time before it was complete. He noted that there seemed to be some uncertainty amongst Area Representatives about the action they should take when they received an early warning message from the telemetry system. Obviously every situation would be different and they would need to assess, based, for example, on the amount of recent rainfall, whether or not a real emergency was developing. They should also assess their priorities for action. For instance, they might well decide to make it their first priority to alert those on their list whose properties seemed at greatest risk of flooding because they had flooded in the past. Another priority might well be those whose flood protection equipment took a long time to fit, or those on the ‘Buddy System’ who had to fit someone else’s equipment. On the other hand those whose houses had never flooded in the past probably did not require such urgent action.</p> <p>b. He added that the Secretary would circulate a “Buddy System” List at each meeting and those who have had flood protection equipment provided, or who are on the Emergency Help list are encouraged to say who their “buddy” will be and complete all the necessary contact details. The Secretary will then ensure that all Area Representatives and their deputies will have a copy. It is also important that any changes are notified to the Secretary so that the List can be kept up to date.</p> <p>7. <b><u>BFBG Bonfire Party.</u></b> The Chairman reminded everyone that the Bonfire Party would take place at Millcroft Farm on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> October starting at 6.30pm. He asked that, for catering purposes, anyone planning to attend should let the Secretary know by Monday, 1 October.</p> <p>8. <b><u>Grants.</u></b> At the previous Meeting the Treasurer had stated that he had tried to get in touch with Herefordshire Council’s Head of Grants only to discover that the latter was on holiday. He had arranged for his call to be returned when the officer returned to duty. The Treasurer reported that he had still not heard from the Head of Grants and would contact him again.</p> <p>9. <b><u>Automatic Air Bricks.</u></b> Mr Brown had asked whether there was a UK Flood Barrier tool to allow the front of the automatic air bricks to be removed for cleaning. The Secretary reported that she had been in touch with UK Flood Barriers and they had sent her some of these tools. Those who have had automatic air bricks fitted were asked to contact her if they required one.</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>Treasurer</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
<p><b><u>ITEM 4 - TREASURER’S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>10. The Treasurer reported that over the past month the only expenditure had been £20.25 for the hire of the room at the Siward James Centre and £50.00 to the Secretary for paper and printer ink. The Group’s account balance therefore stood at £1,667.28.</p>	
<p><b><u>ITEM 5 – FUTURE PLANS</u></b></p> <p>11. The Chairman once again thanked all those who had participated in the working party sessions throughout the year, but especially the most recent one on 21<sup>st</sup> September</p>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>when, despite a number of members being away, a huge amount had been achieved. Clearing the silt and watercress around the base of the telemetry system had been particularly important as the events of Monday had shown. He had asked Mr Harrison of the River Lugg Internal Drainage Board if it would be possible to have a long armed digger to help clear the silt and watercress from the Brook, but Mr Harrison had said that this would cost £160 in transport costs alone; unfortunately, this was expenditure he could not justify, even if he were able to get the machinery and staff to do the work. The Chairman said that in the event members had been able to complete the task themselves, as well as removing additional watercress and silt further up near the C1125 and finishing the other clearance work needed downstream from the bridge.</p> <p>12. <b><u>Working Party Dates for October.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman reminded the Group that, as the evenings were drawing in, the next session would start at the earlier time of 6.00pm:</p> <p>(1) <b><u>Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm.</u></b> The venue will be the Millcroft Brook/ Ketch Lane Junction to work on the culverts. All those who attend are invited to join him and the Secretary for a drink and nibbles at Millcroft Farm afterwards.</p> <p>(2) <b><u>Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm.</u></b> This date remained a possibility depending on how much is still required to be done at the culvert and how early it gets dark. (<b><u>Afternote.</u></b> Following the 5<sup>th</sup> October session it was decided that this session could be cancelled).</p> <p>b. The Secretary will send out a reminder for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October (which is the day before the BFPG Bonfire Party) and also let the Group know about the 19<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>13. <b><u>Waders.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman reported that the Secretary had recently enlisted the help of Mr Mike Mullenger to use his personal contacts with the supplier in Hereford to expedite the delivery of the heavy duty waders which had now been on order for some 8 months.</p> <p>b. It had also been suggested that the Group should have a pool of thigh waders in sizes 6, 7 and 8. The Secretary said that, if members agreed, she would endeavour to get a good price from the supplier in Hereford on a bulk purchase. Mr Hemming remarked that there were very competitive prices for waders to be found on the internet fishing sites and that he would be willing to search these for waders for the Group. It was unanimously agreed that he should investigate the costs and report back in time for the next Meeting.</p> <p>14. <b><u>BFPG Fund Raising Quiz Night.</u></b></p> <p>a. The Chairman reminded members that the next event on the social calendar after the Bonfire Party was the fund-raising Quiz Night at the Parish Hall. Last year Mrs Maureen Bick and her team had done a wonderful job and he was delighted that she had agreed to take this on again this year. Mrs Trisha Sanford had also agreed to be the Quiz Master again.</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Mr Hemming</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>b. Mrs Bick reported that there had been a development since the date had been agreed and the Parish Hall booked. The Bodenham Bowling Club had now chosen the evening of Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November for their Annual Dinner and, as their members had always been very supportive in the past, it would make sense to move the Quiz Night to Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November to allow their teams to attend our event. Mrs Knott had confirmed that the Parish Hall was free on the Saturday evening and Mrs Sanford had also agreed to the new date if required. It therefore only remained for the members present to approve the new date. It was agreed that the Quiz Night should be moved to Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November and that this would be confirmed by the Secretary with Mrs Knott and Mrs Sanford.</p> <p>c. The Secretary agreed to produce the posters and flyers and pass these to Mrs Bick.</p>	<p><b>All Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Secretary Maureen Bick</b></p>
<p><b><u>ITEM 6 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p>	
<p>15. The Chairman showed the Meeting a copy of the recent Local Council Review (LCR) magazine published by NALC (the National Association of Local Councils) which featured an article about Bodenham in a section devoted to advice on flood protection measures by local councils.</p> <p>16. The Chairman said that the next Meeting would be on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October and, there being no further business, closed the Meeting at 8.05pm.</p>	

Cllr Tony Mitcheson  
Chairman

30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

# Bodenham Flood Protection Group

Invite you to a

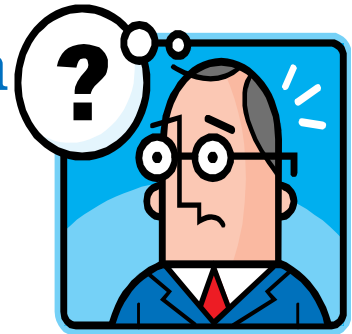
# Quiz Night

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November at  
Bodenham Parish Hall



Doors Open 7pm

**Entry is £6 per  
person**



**Including Refreshments**

**Tables for 6 to 8**

**Bring your own wine – glasses available**

**Prizes for Winning Table**

**All Are Welcome**

To book a table or for more information

**Contact: Maureen Bick: 01568 797226**