

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP

MINUTES OF THE BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP'S MEETING AT THE SIWARD JAMES CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2014

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<u>ITEM 1 - WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY CHAIRMAN</u>																						
<p>1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the September Meeting and remarked that, given that the month had been the driest September for the last hundred years and one of the five warmest in the same period, he had nothing to report on flooding issues. However, he could report that his predecessor as Chairman, Tricia Sanford, was getting married on 1 November and he was sure that all members would join him in expressing their congratulations and good wishes.</p> <p>2. <u>Apologies.</u> There were 28 members present and apologies were received from Mr Bowden, Mr Griffiths, Mr Tilford, Mrs Burnill and Mrs Parker.</p>																						
<u>ITEM 2 – MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u>																						
<p>3. The Chairman asked members to approve the Minutes of the August 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 Cllr Avery, seconded by Mr Brown and agreed.</p>																						
<u>ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING</u>																						
<p>4. <u>Sandbag Cages.</u> The keys to the sandbag cages have now been allocated and the holders are:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">a. Chapel Lane/ Orchard Close</td> <td style="width: 30%;">Bob Pritchard</td> <td style="width: 40%; text-align: right;">797428</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Mike Stephens</td> <td style="text-align: right;">07779-407605</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Parish Hall</td> <td>Mr Anthony Giampalma</td> <td style="text-align: right;">07970-285020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Bodenham School Car Park</td> <td>Mr Mike Mullenger</td> <td style="text-align: right;">797199</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Siward James</td> <td>The Warden</td> <td style="text-align: right;">797412</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. Sandbag Co-ordinator</td> <td>Mr Tony Clark</td> <td style="text-align: right;">797943</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f. Chairman and Secretary</td> <td>Tony and Babs Mitcheson</td> <td style="text-align: right;">797170</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>5. <u>Herefordshire Council.</u> The Chairman said that he had reminded the District Councillor, Cllr Jeremy Millar, that the BFPG was still waiting for a response from Herefordshire Council 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>	a. Chapel Lane/ Orchard Close	Bob Pritchard	797428		Mike Stephens	07779-407605	b. Parish Hall	Mr Anthony Giampalma	07970-285020	c. Bodenham School Car Park	Mr Mike Mullenger	797199	d. Siward James	The Warden	797412	e. Sandbag Co-ordinator	Mr Tony Clark	797943	f. Chairman and Secretary	Tony and Babs Mitcheson	797170	
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<p>6. <u>Annual Bonfire Party.</u> The Chairman thanked all those who had so generously made food, drink and other contributions to the Annual Bonfire Party at Millcroft Farm the previous Saturday.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 4 – EXTERNAL CONTACTS</u></p>	
<p>7. <u>Balfour Beatty.</u> The Chairman reported that Mr Mark Watkins from Balfour Beatty had visited Millcroft Farm on 11 September and that he and the Secretary had briefed Mr Watkins on the Ketch Lane culverts, on the culvert in Mr Pugh’s field, and on the BFPG’s offer to assist Balfour Beatty and Herefordshire Council with flood reporting and signage. Mr Watkins had noted details of the 2010 Faulkner Report to Herefordshire Council on the inadequacy of the Ketch Lane culverts and had taken away a copy of Mr Hawnt’s Report on the same subject, as well as photographs showing how badly the culverts became blocked in winter. He had promised to brief his superiors on these issues.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 5 - TREASURER’S REPORT</u></p>	
<p>8. The Chairman reported that there had been no income or expenditure since the AGM in August and therefore the balance remained at £2,650.60.</p>	
<p><u>ITEM 6 – FUTURE PLANS</u></p>	
<p>9. <u>Recent Working Party Sessions.</u> The Chairman reported on the last three working party sessions:</p> <p>a. <u>Friday, 29 August 2014.</u> The clearance of vegetation in the drainage system at the rear of Orchard Close had been a priority and short work had been made of the first stretch of ditch. The Chairman expressed his thanks to all nine members who had turned up to help.</p> <p>b. <u>Friday, 12 September 2014.</u> There had been 12 members present and work had continued on clearing the overgrown vegetation in the Orchard Close drainage system. However, it had not been possible to carry out the planned jetting of the Moor Brook flap valve owing to the low water level in the Brook. The Chairman gave particular thanks to Mr and Mrs Stephens for kindly providing refreshments after the session.</p> <p>c. <u>Friday, 26 September 2014.</u> Nine members had come along to help and the final stretch of the ditch around Mr Pugh’s field had been completed. Only the jetting of the flap valve remained to be done. Once again thanks were due to Mr and Mrs Stephens for their hospitality after the session.</p>	
<p>10. <u>Future Working Party Sessions.</u></p> <p>a. <u>Friday, 10 October 2014.</u> The Chairman said that it had been suggested that one last attempt should be made to jet the Moor Brook flap valve. However, Mr Tony Clark had recently walked the Millcroft Brook and had reported that there was also work to be done clearing vegetation and blocked valves in the stretch of the Brook downstream from the Brockington Road bridge. The Chairman suggested that, because the nights were beginning to draw in, 10 October would have to be the</p>	

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<p>last day for completing these tasks this year. At the Chairman's request Mr Clark then went through his report, a copy of which is at Annex A. He noted that not all the issues he had identified could be resolved by the Group: defects in the drains and flap valves were the responsibility of Balfour Beatty and he would be discussing them with the Locality Steward, Ms Donna Tregenza, during the Parish Walk due to take place on Thursday, 2 October.</p> <p>b. The Chairman asked Mr Stephens if, in the light of Mr Clark's report on the Millcroft Brook, whether it would be prudent to delay the jetting of the Moor Brook flap valve and instead concentrate the last Working Party of the season on the Millcroft Brook. Mr Stephens agreed that this would be the sensible option. It was then agreed that the last Working Party for 2014 would meet on Friday, 10 October at 6.00pm at the Brockington Road bridge with the aim of clearing vegetation from the Millcroft Brook. The Secretary would send out a reminder to the Group confirming this.</p>	Secretary All
<u>ITEM 7 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u>	
<p>11. <u>Blockages in the Sewerage System.</u> Miss Gibson told the Meeting that Welsh Water had contracted out the clearing of the sewage system. The firm in question had recently visited yet again to deal with blockages in the Millcroft Road area. The contractors had commented to her that they visited most Parishes with their heavy cleaning equipment twice a year. However, they had already had to visit Millcroft Road five times since the beginning of July. They had told her that much of the blockage was caused by fat in the pipes. The Secretary said that she would bring this to the attention of the Ward Councillor, Councillor Millar.</p> <p>12. <u>Annual Quiz Night.</u> The Chairman reminded everyone that the BFPG Fund-Raising Quiz Night would take place on Friday, 14 November. Mrs Griffiths was asked to update the Group at the October Meeting. The Secretary agreed to produce a poster and send it for publication in the <i>Newsletter</i> and the Chairman said that he would put it on the Parish Website. Mrs Davies said that she would like to stand down from running the Raffle and asked for a volunteer to take over from her. Mrs Watson said that she would check her diary and let Mrs Davies and the Secretary know if she was free that evening. (Afternote: Mrs Watson has confirmed that she has spoken with Mrs Davies and will take on the Quiz Night Raffle and will report on this at the October Meeting).</p>	Secretary Mrs Griffiths Secretary Chairman Mrs Watson
<u>ITEM 8 – DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</u>	
<p>13. The next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 28 October at 7.30pm at the Siward James Centre.</p> <p>14. There being no other business the Meeting closed at 7.55pm.</p>	Chairman

Millcroft Brook - Sunday, 28 September 2014

<u>Serial No</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Action By</u>
1.	Brook completely overgrown upstream from Hamwyn Joinery/ Brockington House.	BFPG
2.	Wall collapsing into Brook at Brockington House	Parish Clerk/ Balfour Beatty
3.	Brown plastic drain pipe at Hamwyn Joinery half full of silt.	Parish Clerk/ Balfour Beatty
4.	Very small clay drainage pipe by the edge of the C1125 bridge over the Brook is blocked.	Parish Clerk/ Balfour Beatty
5.	Bank of 23, Brockington Road needs a slight trim.	BFPG
6.	No 4 Flap Valve by Brockington Bridge. Valve seat coming away from wall. Bolts coming out of the cement, so any time the Brook floods water could be able to enter the drainage pipe. The pipe is clear at present.	Parish Clerk/ Balfour Beatty
7.	No 5 Flap Valve by Brockington Bridge needs to be secured back to the head wall. The pipe is clear at present.	Parish Clerk/ Balfour Beatty
8.	No 6 Flap Valve (drain from Ash Grove Close) seat is broken. This would allow flood water to back up the pipe. It is clear of silt at present.	Parish Clerk/ Balfour Beatty
9.	No 3 Flap Valve. This is opposite 20, Brockington Road. There is a pile of silt in front of the valve and the pipe is half full of silt.	BFPG
10.	The Millcroft Brook from 20, Brockington Road down to the Electricity Sub-Station is completely overgrown.	BFPG
11.	No 2 Flap Valve was open with a large amount of silt in front of it. The pipe is also solid with silt.	BFPG
12.	No 7 Flap Valve has a quite a lot of silt in the pipe. This drains from Ash Grove View.	BFPG
13.	No 1 Flap Valve next to the Millcroft Sewage Pumping Station is almost clear of silt.	BFPG
14.	The Millcroft Relief Channel has a build up of silt at the channel entrance. Both banks in this area need to be trimmed.	BFPG