

**WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL  
FLOOD MANAGEMENT REPORT MEETING  
THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

**PRESENT:** Gary Sumner, Joe Smith, Donna Stalker and Dave Hayward (Wanborough Parish Council), Robert Buckland MP, Adye Goodenough (Wilts & Berks Canal Trust), Carl Collins (Parish Council's Flood Consultant), Ian Balding (Thames Water), Simon Masters (Swindon Borough Council), Norman Cambray, Chris Hinton, Sally & Robert Inskip, Jo Baines, John Sherriff (residents from Burycroft/The Marsh), Steve Millard (consultant for Peter Mapson)

1. Apologies: Huw Thomas (Thames Water), Mr Andrew Bennet, Mr Bill Suter (Wanborough Parish Council), Environment Agency.

2. Proposed new housing developments in village:-

Stanley Close

Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that SBC had not heard anything further on the Stanley Close development; the Planning Officer will ensure the necessary conditions are in place for this application.

**ACTION:** Ian Balding (Thames Water) to ask Huw Thomas (Thames Water) to report back on what Thames Water have done with the drainage at the Stanley Close development.

Ducksbridge, Burycroft

Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that SBC had requested a flood risk assessment before this application is considered, however as the application is only a small development the developer may argue that they do not need to have one. Gary Sumner confirmed that Parish Council have also raised objections to this application until a flood risk assessment is carried out.

Eastern Villages

Gary Sumner stated that Thames Water had previously raised concerns about the supply of water to the Eastern Villages and asked for an update Parish Council on this. Ian Balding (Thames Water) confirmed that he would find this out and report back. Gary Sumner confirmed that Parish Council had recently submitted comments to SBC on the Eastern Villages SPD.

**ACTION** Thames Water to provide details as to how Thames Water will cope with the additional dwellings proposed in the Eastern Villages.

3. Culvert and ditch maintenance in:-

The Marsh/Burycroft

Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that there is a high possibility that SBC will be able to claim some funding to carry out a flood study; they are currently going through the

process at the moment and they will need to present to the Environment Agency who will assess the benefits. The timescale for this is to present to the Environment Agency in March 2014, with the aim to gain funding for flood alleviation work to commence in summer 2014. The study will be carried out on the High Street, Rotten Row and Wanborough Road. A question was raised as to why Burycroft and The Marsh are not included in the study. Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that the aim of the study is to ensure water ends up in the correct place, i.e. improving drainage pipes etc; this will have a positive outcome for Burycroft and The Marsh as it will ensure water from these areas does not end up in Burycroft and The Marsh.

A question was asked about current issues in this area, Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that these problems should all be reported to SBC Streetsmart in the usual way.

A resident asked what can be done about private owners who are not maintaining their ditches. Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that SBC do not have enforcement powers; riparian responsibility can be enforced by the Environment Agency.

Gary Sumner suggested that Parish Council put together a list and this list can then be given to the leader of the council – Dave Renard.

A resident stated that SBC have a solicitor, Stephen Taylor, and this information should be given to him as he has a legal responsibility to ensure residents maintain their ditches.

Specific areas of concern were discussed at the meeting. It was agreed for these areas of concern to be looked at by a group of residents and one councillor. Photos etc would be collated ready for the next meeting.

**ACTION** Working parties to be agreed and evidence gained of problem areas in The Marsh and Burycroft ready to discuss further at next meeting.

**ACTION** Thames Water to look at the problem of raw sewage in The Marsh that a resident has reported to Thames Water on numerous occasions but nothing has been done.

**ACTION** To report the blocked culvert next to 4 Burycroft to SBC Streetsmart.

#### Horpit/Burycroft Junction

Gary Sumner confirmed that this whole junction always ends up underwater after heavy rain; this should be reported to SBC Streetsmart. Dave Hayward suggested that perhaps it would have been a good idea for the person in charge of Streetsmart to attend this meeting. SBC confirmed that Streetsmart is in the process of being changed so that hopefully the service will improve.

**ACTION** Letter to be sent to Woodland Trust asking them to clear the length of ditch from the Horpit junction along Burycroft.

#### Wanborough Road

Steve Sanders from SBC has confirmed that the road resurfacing that is due to take place on Wanborough Road has now been delayed until after the flood alleviation

work has been carried out. Simon Masters (SBC) confirmed that SBC did not want to dig up the road soon after it being re-surfaced which is why it has been delayed. Gary Sumner felt that the condition of the road will not last another winter, therefore asked if the road could be patched as an interim measure.

A resident asked for confirmation that the flood study would actually help the village. SBC confirmed that Wanborough Road is a key area to get water away from certain areas of the village prone to flooding.

**ACTION** Clerk to contact Steve Sanders SBC to ask if remedial work can be carried out on Wanborough Road as an interim measure until the road can be re-surfaced.

**ACTION** Clerk to report blocked drains along Callas Hill to Streetsmart.

#### Chapel Lane

After heavy rain, water streams down Chapel Lane, misses the ditch at the end of the road and ends up flowing onto the High Street. This has been reported to SBC Streetsmart and James Garrad from SBC has been out to look at it and take pictures but nothing has been done. Gary Sumner asked if SBC could follow this up.

**ACTION** SBC to look at ditch on Chapel Lane

#### 4. CCTV results for Kimber's Field

Parish Council confirmed that they still had not received the CCTV results for Kimber's Field (including The Beanlands, Avenell Road and Three Sisters Road) from Thames Water.

A resident raised concerns that this was an action point from the last meeting, nearly a year ago. Thames Water had attended this meeting; they knew what was asked of them and therefore they should have provided this information, or at least had it available for this meeting. Gary Sumner asked Ian Balding (Thames Water) to take these points back to Huw Thomas (Thames Water).

**ACTION** Thames Water to provide CCTV results

#### 5. Review of Parish Flood Report

It was agreed to update the Parish Flood report by the end of November 2013.

#### 6. Any other business.

A resident from The Marsh asked what Parish Council can do to prevent flooding around her property. She provided photos and a map of the problem areas. After a discussion it was agreed that an onsite meeting will be arranged with SBC, and Gary Sumner will attend to see what improvements can be made.

**ACTION** Clerk to arrange on site meeting

Adye Goodenough asked if it is possible to gain a map of all the road drainage for Wanborough so that residents can highlight the drains that are blocked, etc more easily. SBC confirmed that there are no sufficient drainage records on the system to produce maps like this.

Residents who are involved in the separate "Wanborough Anti Flood Group" were asked if they would join with Wanborough Parish Council's group. A resident confirmed that their group is now official and had its own constitution; however they have agreed that they will report everything through Wanborough Parish Council and agreed to work together.

Adye Goodenough confirmed that the Environment Agency have given their approval to open up the existing culvert at Acorn Bridge which will help with the water needed for the canal.

Meeting closed

Next meeting – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 10am – It was agreed to invite Tim Price from SBC to this meeting.