Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Flooding and Planning Committee
Held on Friday 20th November 2020 at 10:00am via Zoom
The following minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Committee and may be subject to change until that time.

Present

Cllr Keith Sullivan, Cllr Dylan Griffiths, Barry Turner, Ian Bell, Kieran Warren (LSIDB)

Clerk: Vicky Bailey

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Matthew Riddle and Andy McGrath. Due to his connection issues Glynn Poole was unable to access ZOOM during the meeting despite attempting to do so.

2. To approve the minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 18th September 2020 were agreed as an accurate record & will be signed by the Chairman.

3 . To discuss and agree action on the following Flooding matters (with reference to FPC work plan):

Section A Reduction of water volumes/flow rates entering the catchment

A-1 Thornbury area surface water management

KS read a letter sent to Nigel Riglar and a reply from Peter Walley.

The concern is that whilst new developments now have to provide a Flood Risk Assessment (and in theory at least the flows of water are singularly no worse than the greenfield rates) the dynamic effect of the combined flows from all the new developments and the legacy developments most of which did not / do not have flood mitigation /attenuation has not been assessed. Therefore, the overall effect downstream is an unknown and the future flows due to climate change could be significant.

(Note that the Burton report provides sufficient information to suggest that more understanding of water flows is required)

The meeting voiced concern over which department to take this water management issue to. KW said that as a board they did not see water attenuation from Thornbury as a contributory factor to Oldbury on Severn's flooding as this would have been assessed during the planning stages before the new homes in Thornbury were built. However there is concern by FPC that the water management did not look at the

total accumulated water effect on OoS. KW suggested inviting Peter Walley and Nigel Riglar to the next FPC meeting to discuss this specific subject.

Vicky to invite Peter Walley to the next FPC meeting

A-2 SUDS monitoring

A-2.1 Review Somerset SUDS report

KS read a summary of the Somerset SUDS report due to concern over OoS SUDS maintenance. KS asked all committee members to read all or at the least the summary of the Somerset SUDS report and to look for links between Somerset and OoS SUDS which are relevant. Committee agreed.

KS to send full Somerset SUDS report to committee members. Committee to email observations to KS before next FPC

A-2.2 Monitor existing schemes

KS invited EA to this FPC meeting however they haven't attended today. DG suggested contacting Luke Hall regarding surface water run-off in Thornbury. BT wrote a document 'Thoughts re: flood maintenance and the local plan' which he will recirculate via email to the FPC

Barry Turner to email his document 'Thoughts re: flood maintenance and the local plan'

A-3.3 Inclusion of SUDS in local plan

DG suggested requesting South Gloucestershire Council to attend the next FPC meeting to address this.

Vicky to contact Scott Jones at SGC and to address SUDS issues at next meeting

A-4 Improvements to Hill Pill

Letters to and from the LSIDB on this subject were read. DG suggested if Hill Pill could take just 10% of water this would benefit OoS. KW reported that it is possible to divert water but economically the project would not be justifiable. KW to send a report regarding this.

Kieran Warren to send report on Hill Pill

Section B Management of water within the parish

B-1 Improve discharge rate at the pill

Two possibilities for improving the Pill were suggested; pumps or flaps. It was agreed that flaps were the more sensible option financially. It was noted that the banks should be raised at the same time. The EA would be responsible for both these operations. KW warned that raising the banks is very expensive.

KS to contact EA regarding flaps and raising the bank

B-2 Completion of Church Hill works

KS reported this was almost complete although he is concerned at water drainage in the ditch between Church Hill and the playing Fields and behind a residents land (Davey Stewart). Also the Cricket Club report they can't get through the gate which was installed as part of this work (the plausibility of this was discussed as it is a 12ft gate so should allow ample space for a tractor.)

KS to meet with Nick Blanchard to discuss drainage issues

B-3 Church Road north of the Pill

KS, Matthew Riddle and Scott Jones are looking at an alternative drainage route.

KS to ask Scott Jones before next FPC for update on his suggested alternative drainage route

B-4 Flap repair/replacement in Chapel Road

KW and KS made a site visit yesterday. KW found this useful, has spoken to an engineer and will send VB the date it will be fixed

KW to send VB the date the engineer will repair the flap

B-5 Bank heights in upper Pickedmoor catchment

BT asked if OPC can borrow an instrument to measure the bank height in upper Pickedmoor catchment and is waiting for a response from Scott Jones

BT to liaise with Andy McGrath and Scott Jones again to see if OPC can borrow equipment.

Note: DG left the meeting at 11.11am

B-6 Kington Road / Kington Lane road flooding

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda in future as flooding here poses no risk to people or homes. BT reflected that he had lived in OoS for 47 years and there has been no change in flooding on Kington Road and Lane as this is part of the areas topography.

VB to remove this item from agenda

B-7 Development of flood plan

B-7.1 and B-7.2

FPC couldn't discuss the development of a flood plan due to Andy McGrath not attending this meeting. Ian Bell requested a copy of the plan.

VB to send plan to IB

Section C Coastal Protection and risks due to sea level

C-1 Global warming Climate-friendly policies in council strategic plan

KS informed the committee that there has been little response to OoS Strategic Plan so far. However trees have been obtained and sites to plant them are being proposed.

C-2 Coastal defences bank raising

Historically BT and Malcom Lynden attended meetings relating to this, this is all part of the Shore Management Plan (SMP2). KS detailed how from Avonmouth to Aust the banks are being raised by 3 metres and this is increasing the water coming to Oldbury. BT referred to this as 'coastal squeeze' and that OoS ought to have raised banks by 2030. BT suggested involving Luke Hall MP. KW said there are no imminent plans to raise banks. A ZOOM meeting held with Colin Taylor on the 18th September had discussed this. Colin Taylor had advised that SMP2 was being revisited and agreed to send a link to the latest SMP information.

KS to copy in KW to an email asking Colin Taylor if and when OoS banks could be raised

C-3 Effect of losing Horizon Project

BT informed committee that Rolls are part of a consortium planning to build a small modular reactor (SMR). Oldbury is still a nuclear registered site and could feature in these plans. IB concerned loss of Horizon means a loss of income for OoS. KS said Horizon are in discussions with other companies and so the future remains uncertain.

C-4 Revised approach to coastal protection

KS, BT and IB discussed a report and it was decided no action is required on this item until the SMP2 report referred to in C2 is available

4. Planning matters

VB to submit 'no comment' to all items discussed on SGC Planning Portal.

Note: Other councillors not present also had previously chosen 'no comment' to discussed items

5. Any other items of report (not requiring a decision)

BT offered to write a response to a supplementary consultation (consultation ends 4th January 2021) on SUDS sent on the 15th October 2020.

6. Date and time of next meeting & meeting closure

KS had discussed this with Matthew Riddle prior to the meeting. FPC meeting will take place at 10am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Meeting closure

The meeting closed at 11:58am.

The next meetings will be:

Wednesday 20th January at 10am via ZOOM

Signed by Chairman……..