



Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Flooding and Planning Committee Held on Friday 21st June 2019 at 09:30am At the Memorial Hall

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

Keith Sullivan, Dylan Griffiths, John Cornock, Barry Turner, Matthew Riddle

Clerk: Emma Pattullo

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Andrew McGrath (work commitment) and Jim Nichols (health reasons).

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26th April were proposed by DG, seconded by MR and agreed by all as an accurate record.

3. Review of actions not otherwise on this agenda

Letter to Nigel Rigard re: Thornbury water management plan – drafted & circulated for comment prior to the meeting. It was agreed that a comment should be added noting that the SFRA only included Park Farm and did not take account of the other major developments. MR reported that SGC are currently developing an Infrastructure Plan for Thornbury; the letter should note that flood risk ought to be in integral part of this plan. The clerk agreed to make these changes and send the letter.

Action: Clerk to complete and send letter

KS to write to Mark Parry re progress on and details of Church Hill works – KS has written but not yet received a full reply. Recent newsletter from SGC indicates that works will start on 22nd July for approximately 6 weeks.

4. To discuss and agree priorities for action by this committee

KS had previously circulated a paper on suggested priority tasks for this committee over the next few years. Committee agreed that it was important to establish medium-long term targets and to set priorities for effort.

After lengthy discussion it was agreed that the key work areas fall into three main groups:

1) Reduction of water volumes/flow rates entering the catchment, including:

- Thornbury area water management plan;
- Monitoring of SUDS on new developments;
- Improvements to Hill Pill;
- LSIDB pumping & flow management strategies.

2) Management of water within the parish, including:

- Improved discharge rate at the Pill;
- Completion of Church Hill works;
- Reducing risk of flooding of Church Road;
- Identifying other areas within the parish which are at risk;
- Continuing to develop flood plans and promote self-help.

3) Coastal protection & risks due to sea level rise:

- Global warming;
- Bank raising;
- Effects of losing Horizon project;
- Environment Agency revised approach to coastal protection.

KS and EP agreed to try and work this into a more formal project plan.

Action: KS/EP to develop prioritised plan for discussion.

5. To agree response to EA National Flood Strategy consultation

The strategy document had been circulated before the meeting but was very lengthy.

DG agreed to respond on behalf of the committee.

Action: DG to respond to consultation on behalf of the committee.

6. To discuss recent update from Colin Taylor (EA) re: Shoreline Management Plans

BT has been in contact with Mr Taylor who reported that the last Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) is being refreshed, this should be completed by April 2021. The local link to this project is via the Severn Estuary Coastal Group which includes the EA and SGC.

Information provided so far is not very detailed. Mr Taylor has promised to try and get an updated version of the defence data table, which details the observed condition of the various defence structures.

BT recommended that the committee should follow this up. This was agreed, and it was noted that if no more information is forthcoming the committee should consider raising the matter with Luke Hall MP. It was agreed that as SGC as Lead Local Flood Authority are the 'line representatives' of OPC in such matters, they should be contacted to ask for more information.

Action: BT to draft letter to LLFA requesting further action/information.

7. To receive Flood warden report

AMcG had sent a written report. He is progressing the plan and has started to identify people and resources which might be required. The committee expressed thanks to AMcG for his valuable work on this but discussed the need to ensure the resulting plan is manageable.

The proposal is to work on the assumption of around 50 people requiring shelter for a few hours. It was agreed that this seems sensible; as flood warnings are becoming more accurate it is hoped that any larger scale event would be expected in advance and would give people chance to evacuate in a timely manner.

It was noted that as well as preparing a community-level response to a flood event, this committee should emphasise self-help messages, such as individuals signing up to the EA flood warning service and following flood preparation advice.

8. Church Road

KS has contacted Mark Parry to express this committee's concern that the explanation given for flooding in Church Road is not sufficient and that further action is required. The previous proposal for a relief ditch from the ditch alongside Featherbed Lane to discharge into the Pill has been put to Mark Parry, no response has yet been received.

MR reported that LSIDB have recently checked the flaps around Church Road and found them to be in good working order.

9. SUDS monitoring

MR had previously circulated a link to a summary of the recent report by Somerset Rivers Authority on the state of SUDS in new developments in their area. The Clerk has contacted SRA to request a copy of the full report.

It was agreed that since this committee has requested that improved SUDS monitoring policies be included in the new Local Plan, this issue should wait until the Local Plan consultation starts.

It has been reported by several people that the attenuation pond at Park Farm rarely if ever has water in it, even after periods of heavy rain. This may be because not all the houses have yet been built or because there have not been rainfall periods of sufficient intensity, or it may be due to flaws in the design or construction of the SUDS. KS agreed to write to Mark Parry to request that he arrange for committee members to visit the development to discuss Park Farm SUDS.

Action: KS to write to Mark Parry to request SGC arrange a site visit to Park Farm.

10. Any other items of report

DG reported that there is to be a site visit on 28th June by the SGC Development Management Committee to Naite Farm to view the site of the proposed dog boarding kennels. *MR noted his previously declared interest in this matter and left the room.* KS agreed to attend and to speak on behalf of the council, as long as he receives a briefing on the issues beforehand. DG agreed to discuss with nearby residents and to ensure that KS has relevant information before the site visit.

Action: DG to ensure KS is briefed re: Naite Farm kennels.

11. Meeting closure

The meeting closed at 11:50am.

The next meeting will be held on Friday 16th August 2019 at 9:30am in the Memorial Hall. The Clerk noted that she is not available but committee agreed to go forward anyway.