Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Flooding and Planning Committee
Held on Friday 3rd July 2020 at 10:00am
Via the 'Zoom' platform

Present

Keith Sullivan, Dylan Griffiths, Barry Turner, Matthew Riddle

Clerk: Emma Pattullo

1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Jim Nichols, Andy McGrath, John Cornock and Kieran Warren (LSIDB).

2 Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 2nd March 2020 were agreed by all as an accurate record. They were signed by the Clerk pp the Chairman (due to virtual meeting).

3 Review of actions not otherwise on this agenda

The Clerk had been actioned to write to the Environment Agency to request a meeting re: options for improving egress of fluvial flow through the Pill Head & an update on plans for tidal defence maintenance/improvements from Aust to Sharpness. This has not been progressed due to the Covid-19 lockdown.

Action: EP to progress

MR had been asked to provide an update on plans for diversion of flows to Hill Pill. The LSIDB are undertaking survey work to see if this scheme is viable – i.e. whether it would reduce risk to Oldbury without increasing risks to properties in Hill.

4 To receive update on SGC works

Please note: no SGC representative was present at the meeting, therefore the comments in section 4 are the best understanding of those present, mainly Cllr Riddle.

4.1 Church Hill – diversion of flows to Cowhill Wharf Rhine.

Work is almost complete. The only outstanding issues are believed to be some works to reinstate the cricket pitch, and replacement of a damaged culvert at Westmarsh Lane. The culvert was damaged by lorries passing over it to access the work area and has caused some minor flooding of private property.

4.2 Church Road north of the Pill – consideration of works required

MR has supplied a sketch of the problem area and the proposed relief pipe to Scott Jones (SGC drainage engineer). It was suggested that an alternative to the previously proposed pipe to the Pill would

Action: MR/SJ to visit site

be to instead pipe flows to the redundant outfall near the power station. MR is trying to arrange a site visit with SJ to show him the issues.

4.3 Chapel Road – flap maintenance and replacement works

AMcG recently inspected and reported that the flap valve repair/replacement works had still not been carried out (as of late June). There are obvious cracks in the wall which need filling. Works to reduce vegetation encroachment would also be beneficial.

The previous proposal to reduce the number of outfalls to the Pill by combining inlet points from the road drainage into a herringbone type system seems to have been dropped.

MR agreed to talk to LSIDB and to Nick Blanchard (SGC) to discuss progress.

Action: MR to talk to LSIDB & Nick Blanchard.

4.4 Chapel Road – works to relieve surface flooding

SGC have recently been working on improvements to the surface water drainage in Chapel Road. The Clerk was asked to write to SGC to thank them for a good job on the work so far.

Action: EP to write to SGC

Further works will be carried out to replace the piped culvert near the post box. It is hoped that this will resolve the flooding problem in that area.

4.5 Other minor works to relieve road flooding

In Kington Road, there has been some apparent flood alleviation work done on private property by Fewsters Farm, but it is not known whether this was done by the landowner or by SGC.

MR reported that SGC are planning further works in the Kington Road area, where the road can be flooded to a significant depth at times.

4.6 Thornbury Surface Water Management Plan

At the last meeting of this committee, SJ reported that this plan was being developed. No further progress has been reported. This committee would like more details of what is to be included and when the plan is expected to be complete.

The Clerk was asked to write to Nigel Riglar to request more information.

Action: EP to write to Nigel Riglar cc. Scott Jones

4.7 Review performance of Park Farm attenuation systems

The promised site visit has not yet taken place due to lockdown. The clerk was asked to contact SJ to request an update on when this visit might happen.

Action: EP to contact SJ

5 Bank level in upper Pickedmoor catchment

A request for another detailed survey of bank heights in the upper Pickedmoor catchment has been sent to SGC but no response has yet been received. BT has also asked whether it would be possible to borrow surveying equipment from SGC but again this request has not received a response. BT agreed to discuss with AMcG to see if he could facilitate any survey work.

Action: BT to discuss with AMcG

6 Level monitoring data

BT has spoken to Colin Taylor (Environment Agency) who said that longer term data sets for the level monitors can be supplied in the form of CSV files. DG agreed to have a look at these if BT could obtain them.

Action: BT/DG to progress

The Clerk has not yet written to other agencies to request details of datasets which they might hold. Action carried forward.

Action: EP to progress

7 To agree recommended response to planning application P20/07655/RM Cleeve Park

The Clerk had drafted a proposed response to this application, which includes plans for maintenance of SUDS features. It was agreed that the proposed draft should be put forward to full council with a recommendation for submission.

8 To note withdrawal of the Joint Spatial Plan from examination

It was noted that the Joint Spatial Plan, previously under development by the West of England authorities, has now been withdrawn.

SGC are now progressing a new Local Plan, which will be developed during the period 2020-2023.

9 To review committee work plan

The work plan was reviewed but it was felt that there was little to change at this stage. It was agreed to add a column detailing the latest actions in relation to each item.

Action: EP to update work plan to include latest actions

10 Meeting closure

The meeting closed at 11:45am.

The next meeting will be held on Friday 11th September 2020 at 10:00. It is expected that this will be a virtual meeting via Zoom, but this will depend on the situation at the time.