



Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Flooding and Planning Committee Held on Friday 11th September 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

Keith Sullivan, Dylan Griffiths, Barry Turner, Matthew Riddle, Andrew McGrath

Clerk: Emma Pattullo

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Scott Jones (SGC), Kieran Warren (LSIDB), Glynn Poole, Jimmy Nichols.

2 To approve the minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd July were agreed as an accurate record & will be signed by the Chairman.

3 Thornbury Area Water Management Plan

There was a previous action on the Clerk to write to Nigel Riglar to request update – action carried forward.

Action: EP to write to Nigel Riglar

4 Monitoring of SUDS schemes on new developments

4.1 Review Somerset SUDS report

Item has not been progressed recently. The clerk will circulate the report again for members to review.

Action: EP to circulate report

4.2 Monitor performance of existing systems

MR reported that the Park Farm attenuation pond is open to public access. In late August, after a fairly wet period, there was water in the pond and flow through the exit pipe to Pickedmoor Brook. Committee agreed it would still be useful to have a visit to talk to LLFA and developer on site. MR will remind SJ to arrange a visit.

Action: MR/SJ to arrange site visit

4.3 SUDS monitoring in Local Plan

MR reported that the new Local Plan draft will be put out for consultation later this year – possibly in October. He also reported that SGC are developing a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) covering SUDS schemes. Inclusion of monitoring requirements in this SPD would be ideal. BT agreed to draft a description of the type of scheme this committee would like to see, and forward to MR for presentation to the SGC officers/councillor leading on development of the SPD.

Action: BT/MR to draft and present suggestions to planning dept.

5 Improvements to Hill Pill

It is understood that LSIDB are still carrying out survey work to determine whether Hill Pill could carry additional flows without risk of flooding in the Hill area. MR will request an update for the next meeting.

Action: MR to request update from LSIDB

6 Reduction of flood risk in Church Road, north of the Pill

MR has not yet managed to arrange a site visit with SJ – action carried forward.

Action: MR to arrange site visit with SJ

KS noted that the ditch which flows from the Anchor car park, behind the shop and into the rhine is very blocked by vegetation. DG reported that the shop volunteers have recently cleared much of the stretch near to the shop. It is down to landowners to keep such ditches clear, but it is not certain who the landowner would be in this case.

7 Flap repair/replacement in Chapel Road

Works have still not been carried out. LSIDB are supposed to be carrying out the works under contract to SGC. MR will push LSIDB for a planned completion date. AMcG noted that several of the flaps are being covered by vegetation which will probably prevent closure; consideration should be given to creating a concrete 'apron' around the flaps to prevent encroachment by vegetation.

Action: LSIDB to give planned completion date for works

It was also noted that several sections of the pre-cast concrete in the wall have significant cracks. MR has reported these to Nick Blanchard (SGC engineer) and will check whether any repair work is planned.

Action: MR to speak to Nick Blanchard

8 Bank heights in the upper Pickedmoor catchment

SJ had supplied a CAD file of spot heights of the banks along the Pickedmoor Brook and into the village. AMcG had extracted the information to a PDF file for circulation. It is understood that the data points in the file are of measured spot heights above AOD. If this is correct, it does not seem clear that the heights of the banks in the upper catchment are significantly lower than those in Oldbury village, as asserted by Andy Wallace (SGC consultant) in January 2018.

SJ will be asked to give further explanation of this information at the next meeting.

Action: SJ to explain

9 Minor flooding in other areas of the parish

SGC have commissioned a survey of areas of frequent road flooding due to run-off from agricultural land, including Kington Road. SJ will be asked to provide an update to the next meeting.

Action: SJ to provide update

AMcG noted that a landowner in Kington Lane has recently upgraded the pipe under his driveway, which should help to reduce future flooding at this former pinch point.

It was agreed that Kington Lane and Kington Road are the only areas of the parish outside the village which suffer significant flood issues. This element of the work plan will be renamed to reflect this.

10 Flood response planning

The flood plan hasn't been looked at for a while. AMcG will review the draft plan and create an action list for a future meeting to take this forward.

Action: AMcG to progress

11 New SGC procedure for parish councils to speak at SGC planning committees

Following changes to the planning processes at SGC in recent years, it has been perceived that the level of influence of parish councils had reduced. To counter this, SGC will now offer parish councils the opportunity to address Development Committee meetings in relation to specific applications. This is in addition to the time allowed for public comments.

It was also noted that there has been a change to the previous arrangements whereby, if a minor application was determined by committee against the recommendation of the planning officer, it automatically then went forward to the higher level committee for another round of determination. This could overturn the decision of the first committee. Now, minor applications will be determined by the Development Committee alone.

12 Review of work plan

The work plan will be updated to reflect the above discussions and actions.

Items will also be numbered and the same numbers used in future agendas.

13 Any other matters of report or items for the next agenda

A discussion was held around surface water from various properties in the village going into the foul sewage system, leading to problems during heavy rainfall. The foul system is pumped to Thornbury sewage treatment works and is believed to be already near to capacity. Reduction of surface drainage to the foul system might help. It was suggested that Wessex Water should be invited to a future meeting to explain how the sewage system works and determine whether there is any scope for improvement.

The agenda items for the meeting of this committee with the Environment Agency were reviewed. All work plan items for which the EA is an identified agent are included.

14 Meeting closure

The meeting closed at 11:58am.

The next meetings will be:

- Meeting with the Environment Agency – proposed for Friday 18th September @ 10:00am
- Regular meeting with LLFA and LSIDB – **Friday 20th November @ 10:00am**