

CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL FLOODING WORKING GROUP

Notes of a meeting held on 25th September 2008 in The Old Schoolroom, Charlton.

Present:

Cllr Ted Grazier (Chair)
Cllr Brian Browne
Roger Davies
Bob Holloway
Derek Arnold
Sarah Cooke

Apologies:

Cllr Mrs Freddie Jack
Cllr Mike Wood
Roy Stevens

1. Update on actions recorded at the meeting held on 31st July 2008.

- **WCC Rights of Way progress on footbridge.**
Alan Kingston (WCC) is awaiting EA providing a case for replacement of this bridge.
- **Response to Tony Jones (WDC) re letter dated 24th July 2008**
Charlton Parish Council had replied to Tony Jones. A copy of the reply was given to members.
- **Village warning System**
WDC were proposing a warning system of text messages to mobile phones. The Group wished to be part of this, but WDC should recognise that the Merry Brook levels usually rise some time before the River Avon.
- **Flood height data**
Report received from RH. Members were concerned that data should be treated as confidential by WDC and EA, and wished to reconsider when WDC revised flooding map is available.

2. Feedback from Charlton Residents Flood Committee meeting

- Roger Davies had e-mailed WDC with some points additional the questions that Tony Jones had put to the Parish Council. A copy of their e-mail was discussed.
- EA had advised the Residents Committee on their programme for the maintenance work to be done on the section upstream of Canada Bank bridge.

3. Proposed Lengthsman for Merry Brook

The current arrangement for work on footways, ditches etc. was funded by WCC. Extension of this would need additional funding. Whilst it was appreciated that EA were already responsible for this work, and had powers to go over private riparian property, it was felt that more local control could be an advantage. It was noted that WDC were considering a flood warden scheme, details of which were not available. (BBB to contact WDC)

CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL FLOODING WORKING GROUP

4. Brook Lane drains

It was reported that there had been no roadway flooding in Brook Lane during the recent heavy rains. However water running off land deposits sediment on the roads which finds its way into the road gulleys. More frequent roadsweeping and gully cleaning seems to be necessary. Also the adequacy of the road drains in Brook Lane, The Bight and Top Street is questioned. The PC is asked to take these points up with WCC Highways.

5. EA maintenance work (now and future)

see #2 above.

6. Sewage pumping station

At the meeting in Charlton on 8th February, the representative of Severn Trent undertook to improve the flooding protection of the sewerage pumps. The PC was asked to find out if this has been done.

7. Cemetery bridge sill weir

EA had referred TO the sill of the bridge by the Cemetery, questioning its necessity. The PC were asked if WCC Highways could be questioned about this.

8. Bridge over Merry Brook at Jubilee Bridge picnic site

This small bridge over the Merry Brook is in a bad state of repair and could be inhibiting flow. The bridge is in Crophorne parish and the PC was asked to advise the Crophorne Parish Clerk.

9. Historic data of overtopping of Canada Bank bridge and The Green footbridge.

It is believed that in April 1998 only Brook Lane bridge was overtopped, and that all four Charlton bridges were overtopped in July 2007, but the actual level at all four bridges on both occasions needs to be checked (if that is possible).

10. EA progress on Charlton Flood Risk report

Tom McDonald reported to the Parish Council meeting on 11th September that David Norman (EA) had contacted WDC about funding sources for the in-line storage reservoir scheme (presumably similar to the proposal by WDC in 2002.)

11. Further response to WDC on the above issues

The notes of this meeting would be sent to Steve Jordan (Head of Environmental Service WDC) listing the following issues:

- *Village warning System*
- *Proposed Lengthsman for Merry Brook*
- *Brook Lane drains*
- *Cemetery bridge sill weir*
- *Historic data of overtopping of Canada Bank bridge and The Green footbridge.*
- *EA progress on Charlton Flood Risk report*

12. Action : BBB

CHARLTON PARISH COUNCIL FLOODING WORKING GROUP

13. Any other business

The rainwater outfall from the Hollies enters the Merry Brook via brick construction which could obstruct flow. Drainage plans to be examined with a view to modifications

14. Action:RD

BBB 2 October 2008