

Aston Ingham Flood Action Group

Meeting Thursday 27th October, '22 7pm

Minutes

Apologies : Chris Hobbs
Tom Scharf
Maggie Howey
Keith Sang
Nick Roberts

Present : Maggie Pettit (Chair)
Dave Pettit
John Whatley
Chris Stacey
Ken Stephens

1. Deferred items :

- a. Severn Trent Ditch Cowley lane - return inspection from Severn Trent following work NR **Action : deferred until November Meeting**
- b. Underground spring in garden of house on Aston Bank- work ongoing-update NR **Action : Deferred until November meeting**
- c. Clearance of debris along Ell Brook by Steve Batt - JW Steve Batt agreed with JW to remove the debris before planting after the crop of potatoes had been harvested. On close monitoring JW discovered the field has been replanted with no attention given to removing the debris from Ell Brook. **Action : JW has suggested he continues to monitor, and watch the impact of debris during a flood, and consider removal alongside work to be undertaken by JW re Ellesmere.**
- d. Potential work to improve surface water flow near Aston Court Lane (see item 3 below)
- d. Mr Stallard's responsibility for drainage from Aston Court farm - Matthew Brookes liaison? Parish Council contact? Update MP **The Parish Clerk (HH) has notified the Flood Group of a response from Jenny Allen (Balfour Beatty) following the visit from a contractor from Balfour Beatty. The work that was originally felt to be the responsibility of Mr Stallard is now not felt to be the case by HC; there has been some flood mitigation actions by the top two houses in Aston Bank which has redirected the flow and is possibly causing the issues by the School House. The Flood Group remain unconvinced as a previous ditch down the middle of a field was filled in by Mr Stallard some years ago and may be contributing to the drainage redirection towards the road. **Action : JW & MP to observe the water flow during heavy rain and MP will continue to update the Clerk of the PC (HH) on a regular basis.****
- f. Contact via NFF (National Flood Forum) Jean Timmins and Amanda Davies -

Action : MP to contact Boddenham & Shifnal Flood Groups- update. MP has arranged to meet members from Boddenham Flood Group in Ledbury on 8th November at 10.30 and will give feedback to the group in November's meeting

2. Theodolite measurements of Cowley Lane Bridge : can we set a date? **Action : As KS was unable to attend the meeting MP has asked for some suggestions of dates and will coordinate the best date with other members wishing to attend.**

3. Drainage responsibilities of landowners West of the Church- update CS. CS read out a letter received from Mr Stallard regarding his responsibilities in this area. Mr Stallard has alerted us to a pipe which was laid several years ago by Balfour Beatty which was designed to drain water towards the ditch & into the brook He also added that he had already discussed the creation of a ditch with Mr Edwards which would run parallel to Aston Court Lane , just below the hedge on Mr Edwards' side to prevent water draining on to the lane, (there is no room for a ditch on Mr Stallard's side); he added this ditch would be the responsibility of Mr Edwards. **Action 1 : Heather Hobbs (Clerk) to be asked to contact Balfour Beatty to explore the existence of the pipe and to offer solutions for mitigation, also the pipe underneath Aston Court lane which needs jetting out. Action 2 : JW added that once pipes have been found or installed / jetted, the Lengthsman needs to maintain the pipes to maintain the flow away from the road.**

4.. FLOOD EXPO and Wellington talk 'Flood Action in Herefordshire' information MP and DP

MP drew the attention to Group members of the FLOOD EXPO feedback in two charts already sent to the Group to read ahead of the next meeting. **Action : Any queries/ comments please bring along to November's meeting DP**

6. A potential development for some ACTION! MP **The flood group needs to take some action towards alleviating flooding beyond the day to day requests for jetting of blocked pipes. In other areas we are coming across brick walls eg Cowley lane Culvert, with its 'slack flow' beyond, and some landowners. We have extensively researched solutions and up to date methods for flood alleviation and we know that we cannot do anything without some money. Thanks to the FLOOD EXPO we met with Chester University who have completed projects with a company called ANDEL. Through the use of sensors and data collection they are able to identify which areas in catchments are needing attention first (NFM strategies) and also equally important provide us with a Flood Alert system which we do not have at our disposal. We have asked for a face to face meeting with Steve Hodges to discuss a potential Project and he has agreed to meet with us on 31st October at the Council Offices in Plough lane. Action : MP, JW and DP will meet with Steve Hodges and report back at the November meeting.**

7. Date of next Meeting : Thursday 24th November at 7pm Village Hall