



Wyre Making Space for Water Meeting

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 20 August 2020
via Microsoft Teams.

PRESENT:

Carl Green (CG)	Wyre Council (WC) – Chair
Paul Long (PL)	Wyre Council
Paul Bond (PB)	Environment Agency (EA)
Graeme Kelly (GK)	Environment Agency
Alistair Graham (AG)	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Nigel Morris (NM)	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Mark O'Donnell (MD)	Lancashire County Council (Highways)
Tom Myerscough (TM)	Wyre Rivers Trust (WRT)
Phil Wylie (PW)	United Utilities (UU)
Katie Duffy (KD)	United Utilities
John-Gareth Philips	United Utilities

Cllr Roger Berry was present at the meeting but not active in the discussions.

APOLOGIES:

Nicola Beale (NB)	Environment Agency
Christine Hamilton (CH)	Environment Agency

1. INTRODUCTIONS:

PL welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were noted as above.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting of 28 May 2020 were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING:

Garstang Flood Basin.

PB confirmed that works to repair the east gate on the Garstang Flood Basin were now completed. PL noted that queries has been made by Cllr Brooks re the future life of the structure and by Cllr Atkins re a number of sandbags that have been left on the site following the completion of the works. PB confirmed that the sandbags would be removed in the next day or two.

River Wyre embankment slippage, St.Michaels.

GK gave an update on the river embankment slippage Rawcliffe Road, St.Michaels. The works are currently out to tender and the works are expected to be undertaken around November 2020.

He added that repairs to a damaged highway drain in the same vicinity are still planned to be undertaken at the same time.

Additional works are also now planned to the embankment opposite Wild Boar Cottage.

Action - GK

Catterall Farm, St.Michaels.

KD confirmed that the system has been modelled which confirms that development in Great Eccleston has put detriment onto the sewer network. The Engineering Department is looking to engineer a solution and to also incorporate the pumping station Wyre 82 into the solution. She confirmed that, as yet, the St Michaels FLAG has not been updated.

Action - UU

Primrose Bank Farm, Norcross.

GK confirmed that the EA have undertaken works, including desilting, on Royles Brook watercourse on White Carr Lane. MD confirmed that LCC have cleaned all culverts on Norcross Lane and White Carr Lane. GW confirmed the resident on Primrose Farm had been updated on the works.

PL noted that White Carr Lane suffered flooding on the 11 August but was not aware of any flooding of properties. No reports of flooding have been received from or around Bescot Way.

MD noted that there was no sign of any maintenance works downstream of White Carr Lane – PL to chase Highways England to check whether works to clear the culvert under Amounderness Way A585 have been undertaken.

Action - PL

Moss Side Lane, Great Eccleston.

MD confirmed that he had not yet looked at this – he will undertake an investigation to see what, if any, action could be done here. CG confirmed that the issue was a dip in the road which regularly floods and leave the farm isolated. MD will look into this.

Action - MD

White Bridge, A586, Great Eccleston.

MD confirmed he has sent an enquiry to LCC Bridge Team about the integrity of the bridge wall but had not yet received a response. He noted that the Team were generally happy with the integrity of the wall and not overly concerned. He agreed to raise this again with the Team.

Action - MD

Pegs Pool watercourse, Hambleton

No further action is necessary for this section of watercourse. It was noted that the owner of the fishing lakes has put in for planning application to build houses on the land; PL noted that while drainage would be an issue for the development, it was not considered to be a problem.

Stricklands Lane, Stalmine.

MD confirmed that the developer has undertaken drainage works under section 278 and this appeared to be working well.

MD confirmed that the issue at the Stricklands Lane / Moss Side Lane junction would be addressed by LCC in the next few weeks.

PL noted that he was aware of a proposal for further housing development to the north of Stricklands Lane and he had noted that the current network is at capacity and recommended that a new surface water drainage system was put in that discharged under the road to the main watercourse south of Stalmine.

Action - MD

Stanah Road, Thornton.

PL confirmed that members of the MSfW Group met with local Councillors and representatives from the Thornton Flag on 23 June to look at flooding issues around Stanah Road and River Road, Thornton and the discharge at Ramper Pot.

While LCC (Highways) confirmed that all road gullies have been cleared and are free running, it was noted that the watercourses into which the gullies discharge were in very poor condition and in need of urgent maintenance.

LCC (FRM) will contact the maintenance company responsible for the watercourses to ensure that they are maintained as necessary.

Action - AG

Holt Farm dam, Thornton.

PB and GK confirmed that the old dam on Holts Farm where the farm drains into Horse Bridge Dyke watercourse is indeed private and the responsibility of the riparian owner.

Hillylaid Pool watercourse, Stanah.

TM confirmed that the tree in the watercourse by Flints Caravan Park, Thornton has been removed by Wyre volunteers and will be cut up and used as part of the current wetland works on Hillylaid Pool.

Lambs Hill development, Thornton.

The Lambs Hill site developer has begun work on the installation of the surface water discharge pipe to Ramper Pot.

PL suggested that a meeting of the Group and Thornton FLAG be set up to visit the site. PL to raise this with Planning and the Developer.

Action - PL

CG noted that there was an old mattress dumped on the wetland adjacent to the outfall; GK said that the EA clean up teams would be in the area from today undertaking tidal runs and would collect it.

Action - EA

CG noted that a resident local to Ramper Pot had enquired about using spoil from the installation of the pipe to build an embankment to protect his property. It was agreed that the resident would need to make an application to EA to construct an embankment.

4. FLOODING UPDATES:

FLOODING 10/11 AUGUST AND 12/13 AUGUST 2020

PL reported that there had been extensive flooding in Wyre on 10/11 August; a draft copy of a report on the flooding was forwarded that morning to all members of the group for their information. The flooding was largely held within the highway but several areas had suffered internal flooding of residential properties. It was estimated that approximately 20 properties were affected, although it was likely that some owners may not have reported flooding.

A weather warning was issued on the afternoon of 10 August advising of an approaching storm front but no details on where it was expected to hit. Flooding in Wyre was largely confined to the urban core, parts of Great Eccleston and Sunnyside Terrace in Preesall. No issues were reported in Garstang, Churchtown or St.Michaels.

PL confirmed that Stanah pumping station had operated throughout the night to draw down levels and officers has visited several sites to assist with flooding, including operating two large pumps at Sunnyside Terrace.

AG confirmed that LCC (FRM) would be undertaking a Section 19 report for the event. PL agreed to forward any updated information to LCC to help with their report.

A further incident on 12/13 August saw further flooding to Sunnyside Terrace. It was noted that several road gullies on Cart Gate were filled with red sand from works on Preesall Hill which affected the mechanism of how Sunnyside Terrace flooded.

5. ISSUES FROM FLOOD FORUM AND FLAGS:

PB responded to the query made by Cllr Roger Brooks re the life of the Garstang Flood Basin structure. PB responded that the matters would be addressed in the Upper/Mid Wyre report.

6. ISSUES AND ACTIONS UPDATE:

The updated Issues & Actions list is attached as Appendix 1

7. NEW ISSUES:

- PB asked whether the Quick Wins budget could be used to provide a couple of submersible pumps for Churchtown to deal with flooding issues. It was agreed that having additional pumps would be useful but that these should be available for any area that was having flooding issues rather than having them based permanently at one location. PL noted that the warnings for flooding last week were not specific and while having additional pumps would be useful they needed to be made available for quick distribution.

Action - CG

- KD reported that UU has received reports of flooding from Sunningdale Place, Inskip and would be undertaking investigation works in early September.
- PW reported an issue with Roylen Ave, Carleton – this appears to be run off from St. Hildas C of E School. UU to investigate further and report back.
- PL asked whether UU had an update of works on Calder Ave, Thornton following recent flooding. PW to look into and report back.

Action - PW

- PL asked whether UU have an update on Church Road, Thornton. PW to report back with any updates.

Action - PW

- PL noted that he had been notified by EA about a collapse of the River Wyre embankment downstream of Six Arches Caravan Park. No details available at the moment.
- It was noted that Northumberland Ave, Thornton and Hardhorn Road, Poulton had been flooded during the latest flooding events. UU would be looking into foul flooding issues on Hardhorn Road, Linderbeck Close and Snowy Dell.

Action - UU

- PW raised the issue of a watercourse/sewer on Holmefield Close, Thornton – UU are looking at whether this should all be designated as watercourse. UU will be contacting residents once this has been completed.

Action - UU

- CG raised a flooding issue on Blackpool Old Road which was not noted in the flooded properties list. PL to add to list.
- CG noted that there had been a site meeting on the previous day at Sunnyside Terrace, Preesall with residents, Councillors and flood risk partners. Works by a local resident block off part of the watercourse and by another resident to change the profile of the hill has resulted in a change to how the surface water runs into Cart Gate and Sunnyside Terrace. It is important that LCC (FRM) investigate this and take action to force resident to unblock the watercourse as a matter of urgency.

Action - LCC (FRM)

MD noted that the gully team would be clearing sand from the gullies on Cart Gate and Sunnyside Terrace on the following day.

- CG noted that there are flooding problems on Hall Lane and Raikes Road in Great Eccleston. Residents are concerned that a current development is causing an issue to Hall Lane. The open section appears to be well maintained but there may be issues with the culverted downstream section. This requires investigation.

The gullies on Raikes Road discharge to the River Wyre via a pipe – this needs to be checked to ensure that water can flow. CG said that river levels were low at the time and the pipe should have been running. PW is aware of the issue and will look into the issue.

Action - UU

- PB proposed to hold a meeting on Wyre NFM Investment Readiness Update and NFM update on 24 September at 1pm. Members of the Flood Forum to be invited.

Action - PB / TM / PL

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

MD reported that LCC (Highways) has received £250,000 funding to deal with issues from Storm Ciara in February 2020.

9. NEXT MEETING:

26 November 2020, 10am start – Details to follow.