

## WYRE MAKING SPACE FOR WATER MEETING

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 31 August 2023  
at Wyre Civic Centre.

### Present

Paul Long (PL)	Wyre Council (Engineering)
Mark O'Donnell (MO)	Lancashire County Council (Highways)
Brian Birkett (BB)	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Graeme Kellott (GK)	Environment Agency
Pippa Hodgkins (PH)	Environment Agency
Melissa Hanson (MH)	Environment Agency
Phil Wylie (PW)	United Utilities (UU)
Tom Myerscough (TM)	Wyre Rivers Trust (WRT)

### Apologies

Carl Green (CG)	Wyre Council (WBC) (Engineering)
Rachel Crompton	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)

### 1. INTRODUCTION

PL welcomed back GK as representative for the EA at the MSfW meetings and Flood Forum.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted as above.

### 3. UPDATE ON WYRE RIVER TRUST WORKS

#### KING GEORGE'S SCHEME, THORNTON

TM provided an update on the flood relief scheme currently being constructed by Wyre Rivers Trust on the fields adjacent to Thornton YMCA. The works include the construction of a wetland area, ponds, channel restoration and some habitat creation. He confirmed that the majority of the works were now complete and around 2,500m<sup>3</sup> of additional water capacity has been created downstream of Royles Brook pumping station. TM confirmed that the pumping station has been operating throughout the works; he noted that the flow from the pumping station caused the flow from the main river section to back flow when it was operating.

The final landscaping works are now being undertaken, including the construction of a service path from the road to the bridge over the watercourse, seeding of the banks and planting of wetland plants and trees.

TM offered to host a site visit to the site ahead of the next meeting – this was agreed as 2 October. He also confirmed that he will be looking to have an official opening ceremony once the works are completed, and that he will give a presentation to the Flood forum on 7 December.

#### NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT WORKS:

In addition to the works in Thornton, work has continued on the Wyre NFM works in the upper catchment of the River Wyre at Abbeystead. TM confirmed that there fifteen farms on board to undertake works this year, with around 500 leaky dams to be installed between now and March 2024 together with around 9 hectares of tree planting. He confirmed that the works will be approximately two-thirds complete by March 2024 and fully complete by 2025.

TM proposed a further visit to the site be arranged – this to be put to the next Forum.

GK asked whether WRT have monitoring in place for the scheme; TM replied that one of the sites has monitoring in place and would be used to see how successful the scheme has been completed. He noted that similar schemes have resulted in a reduction in water levels downstream by around 10-20%.

#### **OUR FUTURE COAST:**

TM confirmed that the proposed scheme at Arm Hill has been abandoned, as the land owner pulled out of the scheme. He said that it has been proposed that the works be relocated to around Stanah; including works to improve the marsh and on farms around the area and on Underbank Road, and water storage to prevent the volume of freshwater getting onto the marsh during a high flow event. Further details will be presented to the next Flood Forum.

#### **SUNNYSIDE TERRACE, PREESALL:**

PL confirmed that the scheme remains on hold while the land owner is withholding consent to undertake works on their land. PL to contact landowner to see if there is any change.

#### **AINSPPOOL WORKS, CHURCHTOWN:**

TM is looking at opportunities to undertake works included in the original Wyre NFM Project to store storm water in the Ainspool catchment, add soil management and slow the flow in the watercourse. Nothing confirmed yet and would be subject to funding availability.

#### **LANDSCAPE RECOVERY PROJECT:**

TM informed the Group that he is currently working with the Claughton Estate, which controls land between the rivers Calder and Brock, to develop a Landscape Recovery Project – this would be a NFM scheme similar to that being undertaken on the River Wyre, and would be beneficial to St Michaels and Churchtown.

#### **WHITE'S BROOK, GREAT ECCLESTONE.**

TM confirmed that he has had discussions with the EA about the potential storing of surface water upstream of Whites Brook Bridge to alleviate the flooding issues on Moss Side Lane. PL noted that the FLAG has raised concerns about the bridge parapet wall adjacent to the A586 when the watercourse is high. TM said that consideration of a scheme to reduce flows here is a possibility that he will look into.

### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of 25 May 2023 were agreed.

#### **Matters arising:**

Thornton Gauge boards - PL noted that the gauge boards promised for Thornton are still not installed. GK asked for some clarification as to where the FLAG wanted to install the boards, as all cameras has boards associated with them. He asked that the FLAG confirm the exact location that the boards need installing. He confirmed that the boards only record local level and are not tied into Ordnance Datum

**Action – Thornton FLAG to confirm sites**

Drainage, School Road, Thornton - PW confirmed that there had been no issues reported re flooding from the pipe at 104a School Road, Thornton (especially on 23 July) – UU would

continue to monitor the adjacent watercourse to see whether there were any changes to flooding in the area.

**Action - UU to monitor**

Hillylaid Pool, School Road, Thornton - PL asked whether the EA had removed the concrete block from Hillylaid Pool (to the rear of Baines School, School Road, Thornton) – GK replied that he was not sure whether this had removed but would check..

**Action - EA**

Culverts under the A585 - PL reported that he had not yet received an update on works planned by National Highways on the culverts under the A585 Amounderness Way. He said that NH had previously informed the Group that all culverts would be cleared on an annual basis. PL to raise this further with NH.

**Action - PL**

Moss Side Lane, Great Eccleston – BB reported that LCC have completed their investigation of the outfalls on Moss Side Lane, Great Eccleston. This issue now resides with the LCC Legal Team.

Carr Lane, Hambleton - PL reported that there was no flooding reported during the heavy rainfall event of 23 July. It appears that the installation of the new highway drain is having a positive effect. LCC to continue to monitor the area over the coming months.

PL noted that Hambleton FLAG has raised concern of foul flooding to three properties on Carr Lane (see FLAG reports) – PW confirmed that UU are aware of this and currently investigating.

**Action - LCC / UU**

Hambleton Flood Defence Scheme – PH confirmed that the scheme was presented to local residents on 22 June and was well attended. She said that the scheme was to be submitted this week to Wyre Council for planning consent. Subject to planning approval, works are set to begin in 2024.

Garstang Flood Barrage – GK reported that the plan remains to remove the gate this autumn, to desilt underneath it, repair the hinge and reinstall in the spring. This would mean that the stop logs would remain in place over the winter period.

PL noted that the Garstang flood basin was used on the 23 July and asked whether there had been any issues reported. GK replied that all had been well and that the basin had been emptied by the following day.

High Street, Garstang – MO confirmed that the pipe had been desilted and derooted and relined - he added that the works would be completed by the Flood Forum. He would provide an update then.

Springfield Pumping Station, Fleetwood - PL confirmed that Wyre Council is looking to hand over ownership of the Springfield pumping station at Cala Gran, Fleetwood to Haven, but there had been no further movement on this since the last meeting.

With regard to the recent planning application that wishes to discharge to the river via this station, PL confirmed that, following an objection from Wyre Council, the applicant has submitted a revised application that shows surface water discharging to Copse Brook culvert via the highway drainage system – at the moment LCC are refusing this connection.

PL confirmed that any proposal to link the pumped Springfield system to the gravity Copse Flood system did not look likely at this time.

Fleetwood Quay outfall – GK confirmed that a start-up meeting is planned soon for this scheme. He added that an update would be provided with the pre-meeting notes for the Flood Forum.

St.Michaels flooding - BB confirmed that the LCC (FRM) are continuing with the Section 19 Report for St.Michaels; this will be published as soon as it is completed.

MO confirmed that LCC still have a pump on site but needs to find a permanent solution to the flooding.

Sefton Ave., Poulton - PL confirmed that he had received no response from Wain Homes re any work to reduce flood risk from their land to the rear of Sefton Ave. He proposed to take this matter up with more senior officers from Wain Homes. He noted that there have been no further reports of flooding at this location.

**Action - PL**

Sunnyside Terrace, Preesall – this was covered in the WRT report.

MO reported that the proposed installation of gates to close off Lancaster Road has now been shelved.

PL reported that the inside of the screen on Sunnyside Terrace watercourse is heavily silted and needs clearing out. GK to report this and arrange for it to be cleared.

**Action - GK**

The Avenue, Churchtown - PL noted that LCC (Highways) recently visited the site and found a couple of potential blockages in the pipe leading from the last chamber on the north side of the Avenue. The FLAG have proposed a new chamber in the pipe to allow it to be cleared in both directions. MO said that he would ask his team to investigate installation a chamber here.

PL repeated the FLAG's request for LIDAR data for Green Wood and asked whether the EA could make this available. GK to confirm that the information had been sent; he noted that this was likely to be a shape file for adding to GIS program.

**Action - GK**

Royles Brook School, Thornton - BB confirmed that works planned for the summer holidays were not undertaken,

PL reported that the Scout Hut and adjacent property had been flooded again. BB confirmed that he was aware of this and noted that the surface water drainage was surcharging.

It was agreed that LCC would meet with UU to look at this on site on 08 September and would report back to the Flood forum.

**Action - LCC / UU**

## **5. UPDATES FROM MEMBERS**

### **Wyre Council**

1. PL reported that the area had suffered surface water flooding on 23 July. Area affected were Thornton (Calder Ave, Lawsons Road), Churchtown (The Avenue) and Inskip. The

cause of the flooding has been attributed to heavy prolonged rainfall which surcharge the local surface water drainage systems. He noted that there had been issues with Royles Brook pumping station on the day and that a temporary pump was put in place on the day to try to alleviate flooding upstream. Repair works are well underway to resolve any issues here.

PL noted that there is a private culvert upstream of the pumping station that needed to be camera surveyed to establish whether suspected unauthorised works on this had cause or exacerbated flooding in the Calder Ave area. An attempt to camera the culvert had been attempted and abandoned due to high silt levels in the pipe. Cleaning of the pipe and a CCTV survey is planned for later in the month.

A blockage of Hillylaid watercourse to the rear of Kelsons Ave was reported after the event and passed to the EA to be cleared – it is unknown whether the blockage was present before the flooding event or whether it had any effect on flooding on Lawsons Road.

Wyre Council has been working with all the FLAGs to investigate all flooding issues.

2. PL confirmed that he had met with Churchtown, Hambleton, Great Eccleston, Thornton and Preesall FLAGs in the last few days (see FLAG updates). The Issues & Actions log has been updated (see Appendix A).
3. PL reported that Inskip Parish Council reported flooding to a number of residential properties on 23 July. Concern was raised that recent highway works on Woods Lane had caused the flooding and asked that this be investigated. The Issues & Actions log has been updated to include this.
4. PL asked whether the EA had an update on the clearance of Burn Drain near to Northumberland Ave, Thornton. GK confirmed that maintenance works have been completed on this section.

### **Environment Agency**

1. GK reported that routine watercourse maintenance is continuing – works have just commenced on Hillylaid Pool – works are restricted to cutting back of vegetation and no dredging works are planned.
2. GK confirmed that the EA are tendering works for a full survey of the main river watercourses in Thornton and expect that the work will be completed within this financial year.

### **LCC Highway Authority**

1. MO reported that the works on the private culvert on High Street, Garstang were in progress and expected to be completed by the Flood Forum – he agreed to give an update at the meeting.
2. A drain on the A6 at Barton has been repaired – drain was found to have been damaged by a service supplier who had broken the drain when installing their services. MO noted that there have been a number of these recently.

3. LCC have been working with St Michaels Parish Council investigate flooding issues on the A586 close to the junction with Rawcliffe Road.
4. MO reported that works have been undertaken with the FLAG to investigate drainage on The Avenue / Ag junction. Further works are required to fully understand how the local drainage is connected.
5. Resurfacing works on several roads, including Rawcliffe Road and Longmoor Lane (Nateby), are due to commence. These works were identified as necessary following damage by recent flooding.
6. Flooding of Park Lane (Preesall) is currently being investigated. Most gullies have been checked and cleared although there are issues with one potentially affected by UU works – MO to liaise with PW on this.

PL said that Preesall FLAG had reported that the LCC contractor had been discharging water to Green Lane watercourse and had asked for further details – MO confirmed that the contractor had sucked up rainwater from the road and gullies to alleviate the flooding on Park Lane and discharged it directly into the watercourse. This had allowed the contractor to properly investigate the drainage issues on Park Lane – he confirmed that this was rainwater only and not contaminated.

### **LCC (Flood Risk Management)**

1. BB reported that he has continued to investigate the surface water drainage in Preesall, around Rosslyn Ave. He reported that a new chamber lid has been installed on the pipe close to the industrial site access which will allow him to continue the CCTV survey.

### **United Utilities**

1. PL reported that he had received a request from Garstang FLAG to visit the Franklaw Water Treatment Works in Garstang – PW replied that this property is part of a different part of the business – he agreed to forward contact details of the correct people to speak with on this issue.

#### **Action - UU**

2. PL also noted that Garstang FLAG have queried a fine given to UU for non-permitted water extraction from Garstang. PW reiterated that this was a clean water issue and not part of his work. He did confirm that a colleague from the clean water division was looking to attend the Flood Forum in September to provide a response.
3. PL noted an additional request from Garstang FLAG for a walkthrough of the rising main from Great Eccleston to Churchtown to inspect its condition. PW replied that UU are looking at the rising main as part of a capital scheme.

## **6. ISSUES FROM FLOOD FORUM AND FLAGS**

PL noted that the Issues and Action log has been updated to reflect recent works and additional requests for actions. (An updated copy – 29 August – is attached as Appendix A)

### **FLAG Reports:**

#### **Churchtown FLAG**

PL met with the FLAG via Teams on 21 August 2023.

The FLAG raised a number of queries in advance of the meeting and these were addressed at the meeting.

Issues raised:

There was one flood incident this quarter on Sunday 23 July as follows. A report of the effects of this event has been sent by the CFLAG to LLFA at LCC in their new format as requested.

1. **The Avenue and Smithy Lane** – Both these locations lying on opposite sides of the A6 flooded but flooding from 08:30, peaking around 10:00. No houses were flooded internally. The solution for both these locations is to fully identify the location of all the pipework, check for blockages and breaks, and remedy. See 5 below.
2. **The Avenue** – Flood water reached the door levels of three properties, at which point the surface water level was held constant because it started to drain into gullies in the yard and garden which all feed into the shared sewage system. (Diagram attached for MSfW consideration). This safety ‘overflow’ can only work until the combined UU system itself becomes inundated depending on rainfall elsewhere. Meanwhile in the road, the water level across the A586 rose across the full width then gradually drained away to half-width by 14:00 but with careless drivers creating bow-waves towards the houses the whole time. The Fire and Rescue Service had an engine standing by at this location but unable to pump any water across the A586.
3. **Smithy Lane** – flooded also from 08:30 thus reinforcing the idea that some of the surface water from both sides of the present A6 are part of the same system, with a blockage or breaks towards the outfall. On this side, flood water reaches the doorway of one house as soon as flooding begins and threatens two other houses and two businesses, which are only saved by residents lifting a manhole lid to the UU sewer. Again, come the day when the sewer is itself inundated, houses will flood.
4. **Ainspool Lane** – the rain had stopped and high tide at 15:00 had passed, it seemed like Ainspool Lane would escape the usual nuisance flooding. Not so, because around 18:00 water started rising out of the gullies on the A586 and flowing round the corner and started flooding Ainspool Lane. WBC saved the day by sending a pump initially to be on standby which arrived around 19:00 and was put into action and pumped all night until 10:00 Monday 24 July. Because pumping started just as the water from Green Wood began to arrive, Ainspool Lane was not flooded nor became impassable. At 17:00 on the Sunday when water in the last gully on the A586 before the Ainspool Lane was at channel level, (and it looked like it would rise no further), a CFLAG inspection was made in Green Wood to photograph the same water level which was well below capacity. Judging by the discharge rate of the pump, the overnight pumping was taking off the top slice of water arriving in the Green Wood natural storage area, shifting a volume at least 6 times more than that normally held in Ainspool Lane, which is effectively an overflow of Green Wood causing residents all the trauma at each flood event plus incurring the cost to WBC for pumping. SOLUTION available by installing a penstock in the manhole on the A586 opposite the Kirkland Hall Gate.
5. **Pipe Investigations at A6/A586 Junction** – At the recent CFLAG meeting, collective memories were tapped into and minutes of meetings reviewed, to build up the history

of investigations at this location (Copy 1pp attached for MSfW members). There have been setbacks owing to lack of continuity of pipe investigations and the diagram now points to a 5-step exercise involving pipe repair, jet cleaning, CCTV and location probe work, and dye-testing. It is possible that once all pipeline positions are known and blockages cleared, the existing system could handle surface water drainage, like it used to.

### Cleveleys FLAG

No meeting held ahead of the MSfW meeting.

### Garstang FLAG

No meeting held ahead of the MSfW meeting.

### Great Ecclestone FLAG

PL met with the FLAG via Teams on 29 August 2023.

#### Issues raised:

1. As previously reported, The highway drains on the A586 that take water from the cycle path have been cleared out by LCC or Wyre but each time the grass is cut the cuttings are not removed and these find their way into the grids.

PL noted that this issue had been reported previously and the maintenance teams have been instructed not to allow cuttings to block drains. He will remind the grounds maintenance teams again.

2. The highway drain on the access to the new development off West End (Leeson Ave) is proud of the highway and not taking highway drainage. PL noted that this is a private road and that the development is still under construction. Presumably the road is to be resurfaced at part of the development works and the levels corrected.
3. The FLAG noted there is no street lighting on the A586 close to Whites Bridge. As this is an area of frequent flooding of the highway, it is considered that improved lighting in this area would be beneficial. Can this be investigated?

### Hambleton & Stalmine FLAGS

PL met with FLAG on 24 August

#### Issues raised:

1. Highway drain at junction Marsh Lane / Sandy Lane – previously reported that two of the four drains that discharge into the watercourse are potentially blocked. LCC have looked at these, but the issue appears to remain - the FLAG asked that LCC look into this again.
2. Highway gully at the junction of Kiln Lane/Riverside Drive is not running. PL confirmed that he had looked at the gully which was not full – potentially there is a blockage in the pipe between the gully and the main pipe. – can LCC look at this?

**Action - LCC**



3. The FLAG reported that the non-return flap into the watercourse in Hambleton Fisheries appeared to be stuck in the open position. This has been reported to the Fisheries owner but no action taken to date. The FLAG asked if this could be expedited.

### **Out Rawcliffe FLAG**

No meeting held ahead of the MSfW meeting.

### **Preesall FLAG**

PL met with FLAG on 21 August

#### **Issues raised:**

1. Sunnyside Terrace flood alleviation scheme – the scheme remains on hold pending consent from the owner of the land proposed for the wetland granting consent for the works.

The FLAG to write to the owners of land adjacent to no.1 Sunnyside for consent to undertake works there.

PL to contact owner of the proposed wetland area for consent for works to be undertaken.

2. EA have undertaken works to maintain Green Lane East watercourse – concerns were raised that the short length of culvert linking the watercourse to the adjacent ordinary watercourse is partially blocked – can EA check and clear as necessary? Or is this work for the landowner to undertake?
3. Highway flooding to Park Lane – reports of highway gullies being blocked. Require LCC (Highways) to attend and clear.
4. Request for additional CCTV at Lane Ends Farm to provide coverage of the Lancaster Road / Sunnyside Terrace junction - PL to investigate if this can be provided.

### **Pilling FLAG**

No meeting held ahead of the MSfW meeting.

### **St Michaels FLAG**

No meeting held ahead of the MSfW meeting. Minutes from FLAG meeting held 17 July forwarded to Flood Forum

#### **Issues raised:**

1. Main sewer on Rawcliffe Road is damaged – repairs are outstanding.
2. Surface water around Allotment Lane has been investigated by a working party. Further works are required to determine the direction of flow.

## Thornton FLAG

PL met with the FLAG on 22 August; The FLAG had raised a number of queries in advance of the meeting and these were addressed at the meeting.

### Issues raised:

1. Flooding occurred on the weekend of the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Members of our team were in attendance along with some residents from Calder Ave at the YMCA Pumping Station which had failed to automatically start. The level in the upstream section of dyke was higher than the preset automatic start point when the first pump should trip in. We informed Paul who attended and it was found that there was a high voltage electrical fault with the equipment and none of the pumps were operable.

The fire service was called by one of the Calder Ave residents and they started pumping water out of Calder Ave to Meadows Ave.

Water was also starting to flow around the bungalows on the south side of Calder Ave from the rear of the properties and we found that a drain in one of the gardens on Victoria RD was back flowing thus adding to the flooding situation.

The fire officer attended the YMCA Pumping Station and was critical that there was no backup plan in place for just such an event when a critical item of equipment was out of action.

Paul arranged for a temporary pump to be delivered and put into operation.

Could we please discuss this event in detail mainly concentrating on the electrical failure and also the lack of telemetry which could have notified the authorities at an earlier stage that the facility was out of action?

#### **Action - WC**

2. Could we also add to this section of our report the subsequent failure of the YMCA pumps to operate once again due to electrical issues on the weekend of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August.

We would like to know what work is being planned for this pumping station to ensure there is no re-occurrence of a failure to operate and when either the existing telemetry or a substitute system will be fitted.

What will be the procedure for checking the availability of the pumps prior to a report of imminent heavy rain?

#### **Action - WC**

3. Could a new gauge board be fitted to the north side of the upstream section of dyke just before the debris screen so that both our team and members of the public can see when the level in the dyke is above the initial start point for the pumps to operate therefore indicating a fault.

#### **Action - WC**

4. What are the plans to complete the camera operation of the culvert behind Calder Ave through to Meadows Ave and what is the timescale please.

#### **Action - WC**

5. The Stanah pumping Station was manually started on the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> July by the severe weather Officer. The pumps should have been run manually the day or

evening before (22<sup>nd</sup>) to create extra capacity but were not and left on automatic. When the heavy rain continued on the Sunday there was no capacity.

The dyke at the Sandyforth Arms had overflowed into the carpark early in the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. This is our early warning system telling us that the dykes were over capacity and that there would be issues at various locations in Thornton.

This brings us back to the need for new telemetry to be fitted at the D Fit location on Royles Brook, warning of high levels in the system so a remote decision can be made to start the pumps at Stanah to create capacity. Who would be monitoring this and who would have the responsibility to start the pumps - Wyre Council or the EA?

6. Lawsons Road and Briar road also suffered road flood flooding on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Paul has checked the flap valve on Hillylaid Pool behind the Regenda building and he says it's working ok. Paul confirmed it was shut. These flaps can have a habit of seizing in an open position. One observation is there should be a cleared pathway to enable easier access to the flap. One elderly team member struggled when climbing over the wire fence intertwined with thick vegetation. Any item of equipment which requires regular inspection should be easily accessed. It's all part of a regular maintenance regime. On a few occasions we have resorted to taking secateurs and branch loppers to gain access to certain areas.

Therefore we are of the opinion that due to Hillylaid Pool being so high the road drains couldn't flow until the level in the dyke receded. Is this the opinion of Wyre council?

7. We have been keeping an eye on the new development at Centurion Park opposite the new Hickories Smoke House (Iron Horse). Springfield Brook runs alongside the north boundary of the development and surface water will be piped though an attenuated system into this dyke at the NE corner of the development. Springfield Brook alongside this development is severely choked with trees, bushes and weeds. This needs maintenance to ensure that the surface water will flow and is the developer now responsible for this maintenance under riparian rules.

Directly across Fleetwood Road Nth the continuation of Springfield Brook is also badly choked up. Should this developer have the responsibility to ensure water can flow under the road and through the next section of dyke or is he just responsible for the section of his building plot even though the surface water may not flow further down the system towards the new developments off Bourne Road.

8. There was once again flooding in the Marsh road area of Thornton. We had a call from the Scout Hall administrators saying they had problems and that the presently unoccupied building next door was flooded.

Can we have an update from UU regarding the drainage issues in this area and also an update from LCC regarding the Royles Brook School Pond and the culverts they were checking with CCTV from there towards King Georges and Royles Brook?

9. Is there any updates from National Highways regarding the clearing of the culvert in the New Lane area under the A585?
10. Could you get confirmation when the blockage in Royles Brook will be removed at the location of the junction with Anchorsholme Lane East on Marsh Farm by the EA?

11. Regarding the high levels of silt in most sections of Hillylaid Pool and Royles Brook what are the plans for remedial action. Is it envisaged that there will be a return to a rolling program of desilting and how will this be funded?

Has there been any developments regarding tenders for the targeted desilting which was proposed for an area of Hillylaid pool near Belvedere School by the EA?

12. There have been two new flap valves fitted at the new River Wyre Roundabout where water flows from Horsebridge Dyke into the Wyre Estuary. One is smaller and circular and the second is rectangular. What is the purpose of these two different types and has the throughput capacity been increased to cope with all the extra house building in Poulton?

Will this extra house building lead to the reconstruction of some sort of leaky dam to stop water flowing west towards New Lane and Hillylaid Pool when the flaps are closed at the river due to high tides.

13. Could you confirm the policy for Wyre Councillors during a flooding event? Is it still policy that councillors will stay out of the way? If this is still the policy could we formally ask for a review?

During the flooding event of the 23<sup>rd</sup> July there were two members of our team along with Paul Long and Allison Webster, the severe weather officer. Paul Maynard also attended on two occasions during the flooding event and contacted various agencies.

There were many residents asking questions some of which we were able to help with. Allison asked if we could go and see a lady on Victoria road who was frightened that her home could be flooded. At the time we were busy at the YMCA pump area and were not in a position to assist.

Could I suggest that a perfect roll for local councillors is one of helping and reassuring local residents with their worries and concerns during flooding or possible flooding events?

## **7. UPDATES TO ISSUES & ACTIONS LOG**

The updated Issues & Actions log – 29 August 2023 - is attached at Appendix A

## **8. NEW ISSUES**

Issues raised by FLAGS (above) added to Issues & Actions log

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No matters raised

## **10. NEXT MEETING**

30 November 2023, 10am start in person at Wyre Civic Centre and via Teams - Details to follow.