

Minsterley Flood Action Group: Report for October 2021 to the Parish Council Meeting
9/11/2021

During October 2021, 90.75 millimetres of rainfall was recorded, totalling 693.5mm for 2021 to date; an average of 69.35mm per month which remains slightly above the mean on the rainfall chart.

The Drainage Officers undertook to carry out some improvements to the debris screens within the watercourse between Callow Crescent & Ash Lea, which are still awaited.

On Callow Lane an investigation feasibility study will take place to divert surface water runoff from the upper areas of Callow Lane into an adjacent ditch to the North West of Hildadale. To alleviate volumes of water that collect on Callow Lane between Orchid Fields & Hogarth Close, this is ongoing.

The Multi Agency Meeting was held on the 6 October 2021 at the Parish Hall in accordance with the agreed agenda set up by the NFF in conjunction with MFAG Team and attended by members of the Parish Council, who had participated in the preliminary meetings. A further debriefing meeting was held on the 21 October to agree our continuing plan of action

The NFF have undertaken to ensure that both the EA and Severn Trent Water are in attendance at the next MAM with an action plan to respond to the concerns raised by the FAG.

Whilst these were not open meetings to all riparian owners and residents affected by flooding on their Properties, it has been agreed that public meetings will be arranged before the end of November to discuss matters raised at the MAM; and add matters of concern for riparian owners and those affected by flooding. Officers from Shropshire Council have still not arranged the site meeting to meet members of the FAG & PC to inspect those issues raised at the MAM to better understand the concerns and happenings experienced by local residents and flood victims

Drainage matters on the Old Bus Depot development site on Station Road need to be resolved following the report from the LPA, the NFF has suggested that the Parish Council should establish what arrangements are in place for Maintaining the covered attenuation pit and how long any agreement is in place, usually 25 years; therefore the LPA/SC should be made aware that the PC will be concerned that this liability should not fall to the Parish Council after the initial maintenance contract period, and should insist that the Unitary Council should stand any continuing liability.(item 7 MAM)

The writer remains convinced that additional flooding will be suffered by residents of Linden Fields and Brook Meadow as a consequence of the access road design which has raised levels on the Old Bus Depot forcing flood waters onto those properties which are susceptible to flooding in Little Minsterley. Site meeting to be arranged as agreed at MAM.(item 16 MAM report)

Having drafted Flood Resilience Plan for Minsterley and the surrounding areas, we are now required to seek permission from those residents who are flooded to publish their details within the Plan.

Further work remains to be completed to the eastern abutment of the accommodation bridge and to the western abutment to The Grove Footbridge, north side to reinforce the rock armour to the riverbank at this point; to stabilise the riverbank in an attempt to prevent flood water flowing down the footpath & field into The Grove.

The riparian owner of Furlong Field has agreed a plan of action in principle; to help alleviate flooding in The Grove.

The flood alleviation ditch has still not been brushed out to remove all dead vegetation and remove it from site. This was a major contributory factor to the flooding in The Grove in February 2020. The debris guard has been checked and remains clear.(item 18 MAM report)

FAG is still awaiting written permission to proceed with some of the works previously envisaged by the FAG; particularly along The Grove Footpath to improve safety for pedestrians. Site meeting to be arranged as agreed at MAM. Further the writer is in fundamental disagreement with the SC Drainage and Flood Risk Manager regarding the methods of control of erosion to the levees.(item 12 MAM report)

Still awaiting comment on the draft report regarding flooding of The Grove properties from the fields West of the Properties. At the debriefing meeting NFF reported that Severn Trent Water are very concerned regarding the reports of Sewer water escaping from their drainage system, and had instigated an investigation programme to establish the cause of sewer outflow from the existing manholes. To this end STW personnel and contractors have visited the Grove on a number of occasions recently, we have no further information. (item 17 MAM report)

Also to consider additional works in the river around the Brooklands Hall Farm accommodation bridge, and maximising the river flow between the Brooklands Bridge and The Square bridges. Site meeting to be arranged, as agreed at the MAM.(item 7 MAM report)

There also remain issues with surface water and drainage of the Footpath/Cycleway between Minsterley and Pontesbury, in Frosty conditions it is still a red route! (item 3 MAM report)

The appointment of a part time Flood Risk and Drainage Warden to monitor road drainage and watercourses, and carry out small routine maintenance jobs, and advise the Parish Clerk and Chairman of action required to alleviate potential flooding around the village, remains a necessity.

Whilst there has not been any feedback on the report submitted on behalf of the Parish Council to the Parliamentary Severn Valley Flood Resilience Action Group headed up by Daniel Kawczynski Esq MP for the Shrewsbury constituency, a flood alleviation plan is well underway for The Rea Brook catchment area which includes the Minsterley Brook and its tributaries initiated by the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) Projects have been brought to the fore carry out approved works within the Minsterley Brook catchment area for which funding will be in place. EA have confirmed they have some proposals with regards to the contaminated silts problem, to be discussed in full at the next MAM. (item15 MAM report)

The item of concern: now that Flood barriers can be erected across the vehicular entrance to The Hollies Yard and garage area, in times of flood with the barrier in-place could extend the areas that will be flooded, around the access to The Poplars and adjacent properties. An Appraisal and Risk Assessment should be undertaken to assess the risks of flooding. FAG are still awaiting comment from SC Flood and Water Management Team, however it has been agreed there will be a site meeting between F&WM, Highways, MFAG & PC (item 7 of the MAM report) The SC Bridge Structures team will be requested to attend the next MAM.

Shrubs and brash have been removed from the side of river east bank between the Brooklands accommodation bridge and the bridge off The Square.

Originator: Doug Jones, member of the FAG; dated 9/11/2021