

**Minsterley Flood Action Group: Report for September/October 2021 to the Parish Council
Meeting 12/10/2021**

During September 2021, 47.75 millimetres of rainfall was recorded, totalling 603mm for 2021 to date; an average of 73.67mm per month which remains slightly above the mean on the rainfall chart.

The 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.

Drainage matters on the Old Bus Depot development site on Station Road need to be resolved following the report from the LPA, which is unsatisfactory for those properties which are susceptible to flooding in Little Minsterley. Site meeting to be arranged as agreed at MAM.

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.

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.

The EA & STW were unable to attend but were represented by the National Flood Forum.

Whilst this was not an open meeting to all riparian owners and residents affected by flooding on their Properties, it has been agreed that a public meeting will be arranged within the next 6 weeks to discuss matters raised at the MAM; and add matters of concern for riparian owners and those affected by flooding. In the meanwhile Officers from Shropshire Council have agreed 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

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 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.

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

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.

Still awaiting comment on the draft report regarding flooding of The Grove properties from the fields West of the Properties. The writer is in fundamental disagreement with the views of NFF regarding sewer pollution which occurs during flooding events.

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.

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!

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.

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 agreed there will be site meeting between F&WM, Highways, MFAG & PC

There is a requirement to remove shrubs and brash 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 12/10/2021