

Minsterley Flood Action Group: Report August/September 2021 to the Parish Council Meeting 14/9/2021

During August 2021, 29 millimetres of rainfall was recorded, totalling 555mm for 2021 to date; an average of 69.375mm per month which is slightly above the mean on the rainfall chart; in fact we were in drought conditions without rain from 23 August until 8 September, a total of 16 days.

In our campaign to keep key drainage lines beyond the 30mph zone on Callow Lane and Poulton Bank on the A488 clear to prevent run off into the 30mph zone, we still have to observe the results of the clearing of these gullies by SC Highways on Saturday 7 August to the satisfaction of the MFAG.

The Officers also 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.

The draft Flood Resilience Plan for Minsterley and the surrounding areas has been prepared we now require to seek permission from those residents who are flooded to publish their details within the Plan.

The FAG having written to the Drainage & Flood Risk Manager at SC regarding the arrangements for a Multi Agency Open Meeting to all riparian owners and residents affected by flooding on their Properties, which would be held at the Parish Hall. Our Chairman is in dialogue with the National Flood Forum, who have direct lines of communication with those Authorities and Statutory Undertakings who have statutory obligations and responsibilities for flood prevention, to ensure the right personnel attend our proposed meeting. A Team meeting held on the 10 August with NFF discuss the issues and current situation that would be matters for the Agenda.. This meeting was attended by a number of Councillors including our Ward Councillor, and a further video meeting was held on the 20 August 2021 to finalise the Agenda, that agenda has now been published to all the Agencies.

The National Flood Forum has proposed that the Multi Agency meeting should be held on the 6 October 2021.

Matters outstanding as previously reported still requiring action

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.

FAG have also met with the riparian owner of Furlong Field, The Grove and a plan of action for the works envisaged by FAG, has been agreed in principle.

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.

Still awaiting comment on the draft report regarding flooding of The Grove properties from the fields West of the Properties.

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.

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.

There has still 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, although further discussions have been ongoing with Managers & Directors at SC & EA through our Ward Councillor

EA have contacted FAG with a view to discussing some proposals with regards to the contaminated silts problem, but still no firm proposals have been received.

There is an 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.

Originator: Doug Jones, member of the FAG; dated 14/9/2021