

Making Space for Water

19 May 2016

Agenda

1. Introductions

2. Update on flooding issues.

- **Flooding to Garstang, Churchtown and St. Michaels - Dec 2015**

- **Other issues**

- **Poulton**

- Highcross Road / Lowick Drive

- **Preesall**

- Sunnyside Terrace
 - Pilling Lane - watercourse by Hawkshead Road

- **Hambleton**

- Shard Lane

- **Thornton**

- Northumberland Ave.
 - Fleetwood Road North
 - Branksome Ave.
 - Watercourse to rear of 72 School Lane
 - Lawsons Road / Briar Road

- **Others**

- Ainspool, Churchtown
 - Broadway pumping station, Fleetwood
 - Copp Lane, Great Eccleston

3. New Issues

- Almonds Farm, Great Eccleston
- Sandyforth Ave, Thornton (Royles Brook)
- Grange Lane, Stalmine
- Fleetwood Road South (Telereal Trillium)
- Rivermede, St.Michaels
- Blackpool Road, St.Michaels

4. Planning Applications

5. Any other business

MAKING SPACE FOR WATER TECHNICAL GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 May 2016 at Wyre Civic Centre.

Present:

Carl Green (CG)	Wyre Council (WBC)
Paul Long (PL)	Wyre Council
Paul Blakeley (PB)	Lancashire County Council (LCC)
Elizabeth Lowe (EL)	Lancashire County Council
Graham Wilcock (GW)	Lancashire County Council
Pippa Hodgkins (PH)	Environment Agency (EA)
Kevan Williams (KW)	United Utilities (UU)
Dan Blacow (DB)	United Utilities
David Stock (DS)	United Utilities

Action

1. INTRODUCTIONS

PL welcomed all to the meeting. New Members, EL and DS were introduced to the Group.

2. UPDATE ON FLOODING ISSUES

2.1 Flooding to Garstang, Churchtown and St. Michaels - Dec 2015

All Members gave a brief update of works undertaken/planned in response to the flooding events of December 2015.

Lancashire County Council:

2.1.1 EL reported that she has arranged a meeting on Tuesday 24 May with representatives from the St Michaels Flood Action Group. It was considered by the Group that the meeting would be better rearranged to Thursday 26 May prior to the Flood Forum so as to prevent two visits for both residents and officers. EL to rearrange meeting date/time; PL to arrange room availability.

EL / PL

2.1.2 PB noted that LCC will be undertaking a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) - Level 2) - for the Churchtown area. The Plan will look to identify the causes and effects of surface water flooding and agree the most cost effective way of managing surface water flood risk.

2.1.3 LCC (as Lead Local Flood Authority) are undertaking a Section 19 report on the flooding. PB confirmed that the report will be undertaken in two stages.

Stage 1 (to be published in summer 2016) will be an overall summary of what happened during the flooding events and will include all 135 communities that were affected in Lancashire. A scoring matrix will prioritise any works that may be required to improve flood resilience.

Stage 2 (to be published circa December 2016) will be a more in-depth investigation of those areas deemed to be at the highest flood risk. The report will identify any schemes that can be put in place, areas where further investigation will be required and what actions residents can undertake to help themselves.

EL noted that LCC are not just waiting for the report to be drawn up before undertaking any works; she said that where possible quick fixes are being done.

- 2.1.4 GW asked whether there has been any progress on the proposed tank solution for the highway drainage system for Churchtown. PB confirmed that, following the December flooding, the proposed solution was being re-examined and consideration given to increasing the tank sizes. The works are on LCC's investment plan for next financial year.

An application for consent to discharge to Ainspool watercourse has been made to the EA. PH confirmed that an application for a discharge structure on Ainspool watercourse has been received and is being considered.

United Utilities:

- 2.1.5 DB noted that the flooding of 6 December was an extreme event. The sewers in Churchtown had not been designed to take the volumes so there had been some flooding from surcharging sewers. He noted that the principal source of flooding had been surface and highway drainage systems.

Environment Agency:

- 2.1.6 PH reported that all EA assets have been inspected and surveyed; a prioritised list of repairs/improvement works has been drawn up and works has begun on these.
- 2.1.7 Permanent repair works to the River Brock embankment east of St Michaels are to be undertaken this summer and are planned to be completed by October.

2.2 OTHER ISSUES:

POULTON

2.2.1 **Highcross Road / Lowick Drive**

It was noted that no reports of flooding have been received since 2013; further, improvement works by the initial complainant have meant that the requirement for the diversion of highway drainage from the private piped watercourse on Highcross Road to the UU drain on the opposite side of the carriageway is probably no longer required. It was agreed that these works should be removed from the works programme.

- **NO FURTHER ACTION**

PRESALL

2.2.2 **Sunnyside Terrace**

EL confirmed that capital funding is now available for the mitigation works and plans are currently being drawn up. Works are planned to be completed by the end of the year.

PL reported that he had received a number of complaints from residents about the condition of the watercourse to the rear of Sunnyside Terrace.

It was agreed that EL would make contact with residents to remind them of their riparian responsibilities – it was suggested that the EA may be able to undertake the work and recharge the residents proportionately. PH agreed that this could be done but would need to be inserted into an already busy works programme.

EL

- **WORKS PLANNED 2016/17**

LCC

2.2.3 **Pilling Lane – Hawkshead Road**

PL confirmed that a check on Land Registry records has confirmed that the land, including the watercourse, behind Hawkshead Road is unregistered.

It was agreed that LCC would inspect the watercourse with a view to undertaking any works as necessary. It was noted that no reports of flooding in this area have been received. PL to forward details to PB.

PL

- **INVESTIGATIONS ONGOING**

LCC

HAMBLETON

2.2.4 **Shard Lane**

PH confirmed that the works to dredge the watercourse to the east of Shard Lane were now completed. It was noted that these works were a one-off and future works would need to be undertaken by the riparian owners.

- **WORKS COMPLETED. NO FURTHER ACTION**

THORNTON

2.2.5 **Northumberland Ave**

PH confirmed that the watercourse had been recently inspected; she said that, although the watercourse was heavily covered with vegetation, the flow within it was still good. Works have been programmed to clear the vegetation by December 2016.

- **WORKS PLANNED – DEC 2016**

EA

2.2.6 **Fleetwood Road North**

DB confirmed that there had been further external flooding over Christmas. He added that the property owners had undertaken works to the property, including the removal of all the resilience measures that UU had installed.

PH confirmed that the main river culvert under the highway had now been desilted.

- **WORKS COMPLETED. NO FURTHER ACTION**

2.2.7 **Branksome Ave**

PL informed the group that Wyre Council have surveyed the site and confirmed that there does not appear to be an outfall from the site to a recognised drainage system.

KW confirmed that UU would not be willing to take land drainage from the site into their local surface water system as this posed a risk of flooding to properties downstream.

DB noted that there is no connection to the current surface water system and suggested that a culverted watercourse which took land drainage from the site was possible. It was agreed that WBC would undertake a further investigation to determine whether a culverted watercourse existed and to look at alternative means of draining the site should this not be the case.

- **INVESTIGATIONS ONGOING** WBC

2.2.8 **School Road**

DB asked that the watercourse to the rear of a number of properties on School Road be cleaned out at the earliest opportunity. Concern was raised that the watercourse is in poor repair and it adding to flooding issues in the area.

PL reported that he had not yet been in touch with Network Rail to arrange for the works to be undertaken.

PL

- **FURTHER WORKS REQUIRED**

Lawsons Road

DB confirmed that UU are planning to undertake a CCTV survey of the surface water system to investigate whether there is a blockage or damaged pipe that is causing the flooding to Lawsons Road and Briar Road.

- **INVESTIGATIONS ONGOING** UU

OTHERS

2.2.9 **Ainspool**

See 2.1.4 (above)

- **ACTION PLANNED 2017/18** LCC

2.2.10 **Broadway pumping station, Fleetwood**

KW reported that there were still 50 properties with cross connections to be corrected. In these case either access to the properties had not been possible or the residents had refused to carry out the necessary works; he added that Environmental Health were now dealing with these properties to ensure that the cross connections were rectified.

KW added that the combined sewer overflow has now been capped.

- **ENFORCEMENT ONGOING** UU

2.2.11 Copp Lane, Great Eccleston

GW confirmed that LCC Highways have works to alleviate flooding on the highway planned to be undertaken later this year.

- WORKS PLANNED 2016 LCC

3. NEW FLOODING ISSUES

3.1 Moss Side Lane, Great Eccleston

Raised by Cllr Roger Berry and Cllr Shaun Turner

GW confirmed that he has met with local residents to look at issues relating to the failure of a small bund resulting in water from main river watercourse flooding the road. In addition, there are concerns that the watercourse is in need of dredging.

The EA are undertaking works to repair the original defences as part of the flood recovery package of works, and are looking to investigate the cause of the flooding to determine the level of risk and whether a cost beneficial solution is possible. LCC to assist with any works relating to the highway.

- FURTHER INVESTIGATION REQUIRED EA / LCC

3.2 Sandyforth Ave., Thornton

Raised by PL

Damage to fencing surrounding Royles Brook watercourse causing safety concern. PL confirmed that the land is not owned or maintained by WBC; an application has been made to the Land Registry to determine who owns this property.

PL to pass on details to PH.

PL

- FURTHER INVESTIGATION REQUIRED WBC/EA

3.3 Grange Lane, Stalmine

Raised by Stalmine FAG

Report of flooding at junction of Grange Lane and Smithy Lane – suspected damaged water main. DB confirmed that no report has been received about this; PL to forward details from Stalmine FAG.

PL

- FURTHER INVESTIGATION REQUIRED UU

3.4 Fleetwood Road South, Thornton

Raised by PL

Flooding reported to properties on Fleetwood Road South and around Aintree Road. Source of flooding has been attributed to blocked watercourse along Anchorsholme Road East. PL confirmed that he has written to the riparian owners requesting that the watercourse be cleared. To date no response has been received.

- FURTHER INVESTIGATION REQUIRED WBC/LCC

3.5 River Wyre embankment, St Michaels

Raised by St Michaels FAG

Report of scouring to and leakage through the River Wyre embankment at St Michaels. PH confirmed that EA were aware of this and works are planned to repair/reinforce the embankment later this year.

- **WORKS PLANNED 2016** EA

3.6 Blackpool Road, St.Michaels

Raised by Chris Dunderdale, LCC

Report of flooding to highway (and consequently to residential properties) due to failure of flap valves on the River Wyre and a blocked culvert on Blackpool Road. PB confirmed that LCC were aware of this and were looking at the issues with the culvert. PH confirmed that EA are aware of the river flaps valves and this is to be added to their works schedule.

- **WORKS PLANNED 2016** LCC/EA

3.7 Carr Lane, Hambleton

Raised by DB

DB reported flooding to the highway at junction of Sandy Lane and Carr Lane. UU are currently investigating this.

- **INVESTIGATIONS ONGOING** UU

3.8 Carrs Green, Inskip

Raised by KW

KW reported regular flooding to Carrs Green, Inskip caused by septic tanks not being able to discharge to the local watercourse, particularly during periods of heavy rainfall. The initial complaint had been accompanied by a request for a first time sewerage connection.

PH agreed for the EA to investigate the condition of watercourses in this area and report back.

- **FURTHER INVESTIGATION REQUIRED** EA

3.9 Queries from Churchtown FAG

Raised by Churchtown FAG

3.9.1 The FAG requested information about the maintenance and operation of the Garstang Flood Barrier, particularly how it was operated on the evening of 5 December 2015. PH to speak with the Operations Team and report back.

PH

- **UPDATE TO BE PROVIDED** EA

3.9.2 The FAG asked whether the operation of the UU Sewage Works during the night of 5 December 2015 was affected by the flooding.

KW noted that the operation of the Works was affected but did not contribute to the flooding suffered by Churchtown during the night.

3.9.3 The FAG raised concern about the recent unauthorised construction of an earth bund close to the River Wyre south-west of the sewage works. PH agreed to investigate this construction and take enforcement action as required.

- **FURTHER INVESTIGATION REQUIRED**

EA

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4.1 Arthurs Lane, Hambleton

PL noted that an outline application for 165 houses on Arthurs Lane, Hambleton had been received (application 16/00217/OULMJ). He expressed concern that the proposed site drainage showed discharges to watercourses that currently cause flooding on Church Lane and Carr Lane.

4.2 Hollins Lane, Forton

PL updated the group on the planning applications for Hollins Lane, Forton; the Applicant has provided an alternate means of draining the site by installing a new surface water drain in the main A6 carriageway. While not ideal, the new drain would allow the site to drain and the objection has been removed.

4.3 Garstang Marina

CG noted that the St Michaels FAG has raised an objection to the proposed development of Garstang Marina specifically with regard to the Flood Risk Assessment and the Drainage Strategy Report.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Fleetwood Football Club, Park Ave, Fleetwood

PB reported that he had received a complaint of flooding from collapsed or broken drains on or close to the football grounds. CG replied that WBC were aware of this and that the flooding is longstanding and caused by piling works that the Club carried out on its grounds. He added that the responsibility for any repairs resided with the Club.

5.2 Making Space for Water Group

PB confirmed that LCC (as Lead Local Flood Authority) were looking to update the MSfW groups throughout the county. As such a new Memorandum of Understanding would be drawn up for all agencies to sign up to. He noted that the work carried out by the Wyre Group was excellent and could be used as a template for other groups to follow.

6. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 15 Sept 2016 - 10am at Wyre Civic Centre.