

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Flooding & Land Drainage Working Party

Notes of the Zoom meeting held at 2.00pm on Tuesday 12th July 2022

Present

Bruce de Saram	BdS	Chair, ETC & EDDC councillor Littleham ward
Steve Gazzard	SG	ETC & EDDC councillor, Withycombe Raleigh ward
Pauline Stott	PS	ETC councillor, Halsdon ward
Frank Cullis	FCu	ETC councillor, Withycombe Raleigh ward
Cherry Nicholas	CN	ETC councillor, Brixington ward
Brian Bailey	BB	ETC councillor, Littleham ward
Chetna Jones	CJ	ETC Deputy Town Clerk
Kate Pearson	KP	EA, Flood Resilience Advisor
Philip Morgan	PM	DCC, Neighbourhood Highway Engineer
Thomas Aldridge	TA	DCC, Flood & Coastal Risk Management
Lisa Greenway	LG	ETC, notes

Apologies

Jeff Trail	JT	DCC councillor
Tim Dumper	TD	ETC councillor, Town ward
Francesca Lloyd	FL	SWW, Customer Services and Networks Team Manager
Tom Buxton-Smith	TBS	EDDC, Engineering Projects Manager
Stuart Coles	SC	DCC Highways

1. Welcome and apologies (BdS)

2. Notes of previous meeting of 10th May 2022

PS proposed and SG seconded, and it was agreed the notes were an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising from previous meeting (CJ)

a) Withycombe Brook

BdS asked if an update was available in respect of the fenced off pathway at Withycombe Brook, FC advised that he has not checked recently. SG stated that the resident is continuing with work and the pathway is still fenced off. CJ updated members that no complaints have been received by members of the public about access since the footpath has been closed. FC was concerned that the resident may have caused substantial damage to the bank by using plant machinery along the footpath at the bank of his property. It was noted that once the work is complete and the fence removed the footpath may be unsafe to use and it would be for the resident to rectify.

4. EA: Tidal Defence and General updates (KP)

KP updated members that most of the construction is complete for the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme. Most property flood resilience, part of the subsidiary work, to the tidal defence scheme, has been installed. KP confirmed that it was anticipated that this work will

be completed by the end of the summer so if later in the year Exmouth experiences a tidal flood, measures will be in place. The delay is due to the pedestrian ramp proposed in the alleyway at Camperdown Terrace not being installed as one of the adjacent landowners objected to the work going ahead, EA are using their permissive powers of entry to undertake the works by the end of July. A tenant residing on the seaward side of the ramp has been notified in advance by a hand delivered letter of the works planned and alternative accommodation is being arranged whilst the work takes place.

PS queried when the remaining festoon lights would be replaced, CJ confirmed that she has the electric boxes and as soon as the council's lighting engineer provides a date for installation work, ETC will apply for the DCCS171 licence as they require 3 week's notice. SG queried if we were able to claim back the cost of putting back the lights from EA and CJ confirmed that she has already contacted RB and he has suggested forwarding the invoice to him for reimbursement.

SG asked if the issues that arose on the previous gate closure exercise have been rectified and would the long gate tracks be cleared of debris. KP confirmed that all the snagging points have been dealt with but will double check again. The tracks throw out debris as the gate slides across, but brushes will be located near the gates if this does not clear the problem.

FC queried if another trial would take place and if an update was available on the numbering of the gates. KP updated members that the volunteers declined a further trial but will ask again. She added that the gates have been renumbered and RB will share the as-built drawings and these drawings will be included as an appendix in the Memorandum of Understanding.

BB raised his concern about raw sewage being released illegally and queried if EA were monitoring the situation, KP will contact the relevant team to respond directly to BB. PS advised that EA were evaluating the water by the lifeboat station last week but did not know the reason for testing.

5. EDDC: General updates including Exmouth Beach Management Plan (TBS)

No representative was in attendance to give an update and no report has been received.

PS asked when the next Beach Management Plan meeting was to take place as there does not seem to be a date available and yet there are several meetings in the EDDC diary for Sidmouth's Beach Management Plan.

CJ advised that TBS had indicated it would not be until the autumn before another meeting will take place. BdS suggested CJ writes to TBS requesting a date for the next meeting.

6. DCC: General updates (PM)

PM confirmed that he received SG's email about surface water at Victoria Road/Imperial Road junction and has raised this as a job to clean these gullies on the DCC website "report a problem".

PS advised that surface water is a problem at the top of Hulham Road by Woodlands Drive and Dinan Way, PM urged PS to use the DCC report a problem page and the team will go out and investigate the area.

7. SWW: General updates (DS & FL unable to attend Zoom meeting re SWW IT policies)

BdS updated members with the following report received from FL

- SWW have recently replaced a section rising main on Imperial Road, due to burst on this section
- Halsdon Road, DS has requested more of an update, as soon as we have this, we will pass this over
- Maer Road pump station is planned to be upgraded, to reduce spills
- A section of the rising main between Maer Road and the treatment works is to be replaced, currently getting scoped up

BdS asked members if they had any comments to pass onto SWW.

BdS suggested that CJ writes to FL, as the SWW representative, to provide further information on the matters she has raised regarding the work in the catchment.

BB queried why pump stations in other areas are not working forcing tankers to use Exmouth facilities, PS stated that the lorries are an environmental risk. CJ updated members that this had been discussed as part of Councillor Rosser's motion at the last Town Council meeting and letters have been sent to various partners on the matter included one to the SWW CEO inviting her along to the meeting in August. BdS asked that this be raised with a SWW representative for a reply prior to the next meeting.

SG queried if there was an issue with the SWW Phear Park pump station, BdS asked that this be raised with SWWCJ will raise this with a SWW representative too for a reply prior to the next meeting.

PS and BB discussed the impact this was having on Exmouth especially with additional housing being built. CJ confirmed this is being investigated by EDDC at ETC's request as part of the new Local Plan and the Strategic Planning meeting earlier that day had agreed that the matter needed consideration.

TA updated members that SWW has published a long-term vision plan up to 2050 which is available on their website

8. ETC Councillors reports and questions to representatives of external organisations

KP invited members to East Devon Community Resilience planning and flood warden training workshop on Monday the 18th of July between 5.30pm and 9.30pm at Offwell Village Hall.

9. AOB

No other business.

10. 2022 meetings

29th November

The meeting ended at 14:36