

Bloxham Flood Group.

Arranged by Bloxham Parish Council.

Meeting 3. Jubilee Hall Meeting Room Monday 10th March 2025.

Present: Neil Hegarty Chair (BPC), Nick Rayner (BPC), John Lloyd (Emergency Planning Support), Sarah Reay (Resident), Jerry Wood (Resident), Keiron Mallon (County Councillor), Richard Farmer (Resident).

Apologies: David Bunn (BPC) David Green (Bloxham Feoffees), Tom Smith (Bloxham Feoffees) Tim Seton (Bloxham School)

| No | Action or Note | Owner |
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| 1 | <p>Update on Actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sandbags advice note from the last meeting has now been made available to residents via the PC Mailing list as well as the Facebook page. • The 'at risk' areas and properties list was discussed and will be included in the revised Bloxham Village Emergency Plan (BVEP) as will any further information from the forthcoming Section 19 Report on village flooding. • RF told the meeting that whilst he had tried to contact 'Flood Mary" he had received no further response. There was however a significant amount of free information available via her website (https://floodmary.com). These contact details to be included in the forthcoming Communication due to go out residents. | <p>Info</p> <p>JL</p> |
| 2 | <p>Review of BPC Emergency Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For clarity, whilst this group is trying to coordinate and reduce the likelihood of significant further flooding, all residents must take responsibility for protecting their own properties. However, the PC will consider holding a very limited number of spare flood prevention bags (Hydrosack type) for deployment in emergencies. The holding location of these is to be decided. • It was also suggested that the PC consider whether it is possible to give small grants to at risk locations to support their flood prevention efforts. • JL has contacted a number of locations around the village to ask if they would be prepared to act as place of safety locations particularly out of normal hours in the event of a flood. These will be included in the BVEP revisions along with contact numbers. JL has also revised several other areas of the plan already. | <p>NH/JL</p> <p>NH/DB</p> |
| 3 | <p>Updates from County Council & Highways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways are continuing to work with CDC on gulleys and drains in the village this week with jetting and cleaning equipment. Post Meeting Update – info from this DrainLine team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DrainLine have just taken over this contract – and it officially comes into place in April - The two man crew worked for 4 days in the village and cleared drains in Colesbourne Road, Brookside Way, Tadmarton Road, Greenhills Park, Courtington Lane and the High Street. Any drain they were unable to clear or unable to access because of parked cars, they were reporting to OCC for action. We need to ensure that these issues are progressed. • The Blue Dye test due to be carried out for Bloxham School grounds is still outstanding for the drains network on Courtington Lane. This is essential to see where the runoff goes and clearly understand the pipework and drain | <p>Info</p> <p>KM</p> <p>NH/KM</p> |

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| | <p>constrictions (identified by Bourton Drains) that are thought to be the cause of the significant problems on Courtington Lane Workhouse Lane and The High Street. This needs to be combined with the Section 19 report being prepared by Tony Brummel to get addressing actions in place.</p> <p>Post Meeting Update: This test was due to have been carried out on Thurs 13 March. No update had been received by end Friday 14th.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Environment Agency Update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further actions following the recent “walk the brook” activity report at the last meeting. However, the removal of some very limited silt at the Little Bridge Road bridge using a mini digger was to be pursued. We have a potential contractor identified and NH will pursue. | NH |
| 5 | <p>Thames Water Update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the time of the meeting there was no reply from Thames Water to the FOIR for information on the drains and pipework age and size in the High Street. Reply due before 13/3/25. (Note: Subsequently some limited information has been received from TW). | |
| 6 | <p>Slow The Flow” Presentation from Jerry Wood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JW delivered a presentation covering a number of local “Slow the flow” schemes that had been implemented and had delivered some very significant benefits to the local flood risk communities (Evenlode and Shipston were specifically quoted). This presentation to be made available to committee members for Info). Key to this was understanding the “catchment” area that drives the causal flood issues, so a wider approach involving Milcombe, Adderbury etc may be required. Could this be achieved via OALC? There is a lot of specific, one-off type actions that might be taken to help alleviate the situation we experienced during Storm Bert, but we need to have a way of bringing everything together into a Bloxham Flood Management Plan. So, JW was asked to look at what the other schemes did when they first developed their plans, and this could help us come up with a list of proposed actions (ideally short medium and long term). We can then review this within this Group, and present to the BPC. We should also investigate whether someone from Evenlode (or similar scheme) would be willing to come to a future meeting to talk about their experiences. | <p>Info TG JW/ DB JW/TG/NH JW</p> |
| 7 | <p>Any Other Business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SR suggested asking Sean Woodcock MP if he would be prepared to come to the village to discuss the flooding issues. (Residents can also write directly to him about their specific issues.) Bloxham School have carried out the maintenance of their culverts on the playing field in Courtington Lane. It was suggested that at one of the BPC Bloxham School Liaison sessions TS and DB walk the culvert/ drainage ditch to discuss any thoughts they may have on potentially increasing still further the effectiveness of the system. | <p>DB Info DB/TS</p> |
| 8 | Date of Next Meeting: To be Agreed | NH/TG |