

MINUTES OF CROSCOMBE PARISH FLOOD COMMITTEE HELD REMOTELY ON WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2021, 7:00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs G Parker & J Cansdale; P Hodge; H Causer; P Jones; E Boot; J Scott
IN ATTENDANCE: G Pettitt (Parish Clerk); C Somerville, Dinder Estate (part); A Lambart, Somerset County Council (part)

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN D Collyer was unable to access Zoom

02. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.
- 2.2 There were no requests for dispensation.
- 2.3 There were no grants for dispensation.

03. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC Not required.

04. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME No questions were put to the meeting.

05. MINUTES OF CPC FLOOD COMMITTEE HELD 14 DECEMBER 2020

RESOLVED: That the minutes are approved.

06. PROGRESS REPORTS AND FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

- **Statutory Authorities** - A Lambart spoke on progress of S19 report. The area being investigated has been extended to include Bowlsh and Shepton Mallet, as well as Croscombe, as identified by Mendip District Council (MDC). He requests Flood Incident forms and large maps to be filled in/annotated and returned.
Possible causes - data analysis shows that in two days about 128% of October's monthly rainfall was recorded. MDC will be surveying 5 culverts or storm drains. The route of the northern culvert by Jacks Lane bridge is unclear. A Lambart will seek out previous rainfall records for comparison.
A bid has been submitted to the Somerset Rivers Authority for about £125,000, for the next financial year, to survey the whole area from Shepton Mallet to Dinder and Dulcote
Photos of the bridge from 2012 requested. There is verbal knowledge that the river was 300ml than lower now; photos would help verify this.
A Lambart would like sight of relevant minutes from the time that a flood alleviation scheme was offered in 2012 but a misunderstanding led to it not being accomplished. C Somerville said he would send the 2012 Flood Alleviation plan
- A Lambart stated that S19 property location information will not be shared with any third parties - references to properties will be redacted where possible.
- **Parishioners** - the Roundabout article brought no further completed Flood

Incident forms, but some parishioners commented and expressed interest in the Flood Committee.

Noted the pond by Griffin's Green is silted up. Area under the bridge was cleared of rubble shortly before October flood.

Some land clearance noted at cottages above Griffin's Green. Cll Parker to make enquiries.

Noted river level rises and falls during day - need knowledge of discharge points.

- **Wider Community** - C Somerville described erosion within field behind Lynwood and Millbrook. The wall is undermined and there is a build up of residue and rubble. A collapse occurred before Christmas, which was repaired with gabions after receipt of a bioengineering report. Also noted the increased depth and faster flow of the river. He may commission a report from a hydroengineering firm for remedial work and offered any reports to the Flood Committee and A Lambart when produced.

Of concern is that works along the river neither duplicate nor hinder measures being taken elsewhere but be considered holistically. Very pleased to have met A Lambart and the Flood Committee.

P Hodge noted that the river flow has increased due to various factors, including new build in Shepton Mallet creating more run-off and sewerage; bore holes within cider factory no longer in use.

J Scott reported a conversation with a parishioner who observed that the river bed has definitely risen over the past 10 or 12 years.

07. FLOOD PLAN REVIEW

- **Identification of affected properties and collection of information on Oct 2020 flood** - Cllr Parker thanked H Causer and P Jones for their work on the Roundabout article.

Meeting decided to hold a stall on 13 March 10am-4pm, with large maps, marker pens, flood incident forms to gather information including data on those with particular needs and permission to pass information to Somerset County Council for the S19 report. Paper to be provided for stories, recording available for oral feedback. Deadline for feedback for S19 report is March 8, but A Lambart aware that lockdown has delayed progress. Flyers to be posted around village and laminated for lamp posts, H Causer and P Jones to prepare these. With approval from Peter Graham, outside the old Village Stores is the preferred site for the stall. Cllr Cansdale and J Scott can provide trestles. H Causer and P Jones - a gazebo. E Boot, H Causer and P Jones volunteered for the day.

COVID restrictions - clerk to provide guidelines.

Door knocking that morning to alert people to the stall.

- **Flood Warden team** - J Scott to check current wardens' intentions to continue.
- **Equipment check schedule** - Cllr Parker has list of requirements from P Hodge. Cllr Cansdale offered donation of ½ dozen florescent jackets. Suggestion that 'Road Closed' signage would be useful - check with police authority.
- **Residents in need of particular support** - forms to be available for 13 March stall - gathering by word of mouth throughout village
- **Documentation** - Parish Online - **RESOLVED**: Flood Committee to be given Reader

access

- **To approve the completion of the Flood Plan review for presentation to Full Council** - the review is not complete and will be brought to next meeting. H Causer noted the Environment Agency booklet that can be made available to affected properties. The council has a pump that needs locating - suggested an inventory of farms with portable pumps. Aspiration to hold an event at which flood mitigation measures can be shown, e.g. demonstration of handling pumps and fitting barriers.

CLOSE

The next meeting tbc March 2021.

Signed

Date

Actions

- seek 2012 minutes referring to Flood Alleviation Plan (FAP) for A Lambart - clerk
- send 2012 FAP to A Lambart and Cllr Parker - C Somerville
- flyers for info gathering stall - H Causer & P Jones
- make enquiries re land clearance by cottages above Griffin's Green - Cllr Parker
- send Flood Committee any hydroengineering reports etc. - C Somerville
- A Lambart and C Somerville to be sent minutes - clerk
- March 13 - tables - Cllr Cansdale & J Scott; gazebo - H Causer & P Jones; available on day - E Boot; H Causer & P Jones; COVID guidelines - clerk
- Flood Warden team - J Scott to contact current wardens
- check whether police authority needed for 'Road Closed' signage - ?
- does the council own pumps? - Cllr Parker to enquire