

Minutes of the Multi Agency Flood Defence Meeting on  
Wednesday 13 November 2013 held in Lydney Town Council Chambers  
at 10.30 am

**PRESENT:** Cllr Christine Jones, West Dean Parish Council **(ChJ)**  
Cllr Bill Gayler, West Dean Parish Council **(BG)**  
Mr Dave Kent, Clerk, West Dean Parish Council **(DK)**  
Robert Frankton, Lydney Park Estate **(RF)**  
Cllr Brian Pearman, Lydney NDP/Finance & Scrutiny Committee  
Chairman **(BP)**  
Cllr Alan Preest, Lydney Town Council **(AP)**  
Cllr Brian Thomas, Lydney Town Council **(BT)**  
Jayne Smailes, CEO Lydney Town Council **(JS)**  
Dan Howell, Forestry Commission **(DH)**  
Chris Johns, Forest of Dean District Council **(CJ)**  
District Cllr Martin Quaile, Forest of Dean District Council **(MQ)**  
Mr Stewart Charters, Watts Group **(SC)**  
Mr John Thurston, Watts Group (late arrival) **(JT)**  
Mr Martin Young, Environment Agency **(MY)**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Carol Wheeler, EO Lydney Town Council (Minute Taker)

**APOLOGIES:** District Cllr Marion Winship (Forest of Dean District Council),  
Chris Bull (Dean Forest Railway), Dr Jerry Burch (Glatfelter),  
David Graham (Gloucestershire County Council), Cllr Carol Harris  
(Lydney Town Council), Peter Adams (Dean Forest Railway),  
Karen Blackwell (Aylburton Parish Council), Dave Street

		<b>ACTIONS</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>WELCOME &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b> BT chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made around the table.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>NOTES OF LAST MEETING (3 July 2013)</b> One amendment was made to the notes of the last meeting to correct the name of Cllr Bill Gayler, West Dean Parish Council. The notes were then accepted as a true record.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>LYD MAP AND RIPARIAN OWNERSHIP</b> JS advised that Pear Technology had now amended the draft riparian ownership plan as per information provided by Lydney Park Estate and Dean Forest Railway. Lydney Park Estate were requested to review the map again to confirm that they were satisfied with the areas shown in their ownership. It was explained that the map would only illustrate the best possible estimate of land ownership and it was hoped that copies of the map would be provided to Partners, however, it was stressed that a charge would be incurred by Lydney Town Council for providing said copies	

	<b>ACTIONS</b>
<p>DK advised that West Dean Parish Council would make a decision in the forthcoming weeks regarding the mapping of areas of their Parish. However, it was felt that virtually all the land concerned was owned by the Forestry Commission, with only a few areas within private ownership. It was suggested that the Forestry Commission may be able to provide shape/gif files which may be uploaded directly onto the mapping software.</p>	<p><b>D Kent/ D Howell</b></p>
<p><b>4. RIVER LYD/WATERCOURSE CLEARING</b></p> <p>It was noted that LTC had addressed the clearance of the watercourse on land owned by Lydney Recreation Trust from the Hams Road Car Park to the Albany Bridge. Lydney Recreation Trust/Lydney Town Council were currently investigating the possibility of undertaking further clearance work on land south of Albany Bridge where riparian ownership responsibilities were shared with Dean Forest Railway. The effect on the flow of water as a result of clearing the watercourse would need to be assessed.</p> <p>MY provided an explanation of the Environment Agency report which had been issued to attendees at a previous meeting and advised that the level of the harbour gates were sufficient to cope with “lower level” events. However, MY stressed that “significant” events more than filled up any space which could be created. Whilst he accepted that the report was confusing, MY felt that it illustrated that so many parameters affected the effectiveness of the gates that the engineers had attempted to identify favourable parameters which could be used when calculating differences in flow (e.g. no blockages in watercourse).</p> <p>BP stressed the need for “joined up” thinking and advocated that greater attention should be placed on the flow stemming from Parkend, rather than the impact of the flow from the harbour. Furthermore, he stressed that during the recent bout of heavy rain, the water level had remained relatively stable within the watercourse during the anticipated peak flow, however, last year the water level had continued to rise.</p>	



		<b>ACTIONS</b>
	<p>Regarding the creation of attenuation ponds, DH felt that there may be a possible benefit for creating a pond at Parkend only. DK stressed the need for consideration to be given to the impact that engineering work to create a cycle link between Lydney and Parkend would have on the watercourse.</p> <p>The need to monitor Plummers Brook was also highlighted, particularly where it crosses the A48 approximately 200 yards before the Highfield Road junction and also around J D Norman. It was noted that Plummers Brook was not classed as a main river, therefore not monitored by the Environment Agency. CJ was requested to investigate the costs for monitoring said area.</p>	<b>C Johns</b>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>ACTION PLAN/ACTION PENDING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Dean Parish Council to be provided with a cost for mapping area from Parkend to Lydney.</li> <li>• Lydney Park Estate requested to confirm satisfaction with draft Riparian Ownership plan.</li> <li>• Lydney Recreation Trust/Lydney Town Council to obtain quotations for clearance of watercourse on land south of Albany Bridge</li> <li>• Forest of Dean District Council to provide CEO with a list of green methods to address SUDS.</li> <li>• Contact information to be provided for Nicola Manley, Rapid Response Advisor, West Area, Midlands Region, Environment Agency, who is keen to work with the local Community and potential flood wardens. (Details appended). It was noted that a Rapid Response Catchment Plan for Lydney had been developed/updated. LTC already has contact details for EA officers in times of flood.</li> <li>• Forest of Dean District Council to ascertain if grey water “back up” counted towards flooding statistics</li> <li>• Forestry Commission/West Dean Parish Council to provide shape/gif files which may be uploaded directly onto the mapping software.</li> </ul>	<p><b>J Smailes</b></p> <p><b>R Frankton</b></p> <p><b>J Smailes</b></p> <p><b>C Johns</b></p> <p><b>M Young</b></p> <p><b>C Johns</b></p> <p><b>D Kent/D Howell</b></p>

		<b>ACTIONS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP to provide MY with the date of the last event, to ascertain what the telemetry at the harbour had recorded. Results to also be relayed to West Dean Parish Council.</li> <li>• MQ to speak to Network Rail to ascertain if the culverts on the rail track were checked on a regular basis.</li> <li>• CJ to investigate the costs for monitoring two areas of Plummers Brook.</li> </ul>	<b>B Pearman/M Young</b>  <b>District Cllr M Quaile</b>  <b>C Johns</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> Wednesday 22 January 2014 at 10.30 am in Lydney Town Council Chambers.	

Meeting closed at 11.35 am

**Contact Details:**

Nicola Manley  
Rapid Response Advisor  
West Area, Midlands Region  
Environment Agency  
Riversmeet House  
Newtown Industrial Estate  
Northway Lane  
Tewkesbury  
Glos  
GL20 8JG

Direct Dial: 01684 864332  
Mobile: 07771 831780  
E-mail: Nicola.manley@environment-agency.gov.uk