

Minutes of the Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd March 2016
in Lydney Town Council Chambers at 10.00 am

PRESENT: Cllr Bob Berryman, Lydney Town Council **(BB)**
Cllr Dave Street, Lydney Town Council, Lydney NDP **(DS)**
Cllr Alan Preest, Lydney Town Council/Gloucestershire County Council **(AP)**
Cllr Rose Christodoulides, Lakeside Resident Rep/Lydney Town Council **(RC)**
Terry Richards, Lydney Resident (Cookson Terrace) **(TR)**
Jayne Smailes, Lydney Town Council **(JS)**
Dawn Morgan, Forest of Dean District Council **(DM)**
Lawrence King, Forest of Dean District Council **(LK)**
Matthew Kerry, Environment Agency **(MK)**
Matthew Jaynes, Severn Trent **(MJ)**
Josh Mogg, Severn Trent **(JM)**
Tabitha Whitcombe, National Flood Defence Forum **(TW)**
David Graham, Gloucestershire County Council **(DG)**

IN ATTENDANCE: Kate Hammond, Admin Assistant, Lydney Town Council (Minute Taker)

APOLOGIES: Cllr Colin Legg (Lakeside Resident Rep/Lydney Town Council)
Edward Argent (Robert Hitchins Ltd)
District Cllr Marilyn Smart (Forest of Dean District Council)
James Jones (Lydney Park Estate)
Robert Frankton (Lydney Park Estate)
Cllr Brian Pearman (Lydney Town Council, Lydney NDP)
Chris Johns (Forest of Dean District Council)
Grace Martin (National Flood Forum)
Chris Bull (Dean Forest Railway)

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS Cllr Bob Berryman (BB) chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made around the table including the welcoming of Mr Terry Richards (TR) appointment to the Discussion Group.</p>	
2.	<p>NOTES OF LAST MEETING (21 January 2016) The meeting notes were accepted as a true record.</p>	
3.	<p>FLOODING TO LAKESIDE AVENUE/FALLER FIELDS BB requested confirmation as to the sum paid to date on Flood Defence measures, held by FODDC.</p> <p>Dawn Morgan (DM) advised that £9,000 had been spent on surveys at Lakeside Avenue and a further £5,000 had been allocated for Flood Defence measures from Gloucestershire County Council</p>	

(which FODDC were expecting to receive in the coming months). This left the total balance left to spend on Flood Defence work at £37,350.

JS questioned whether that meant that FODDC had the capacity to be able to address the issues at Faller Fields as suggested by Brian Watkins GCC Highways? DM advised that FODDC were only going to use the budget towards upstream attenuation. JS advised that the group were expecting to receive an engineer's report for Fallers Field as to what could be done to alleviate problems there and it was of the understanding that FODDC would liaise with GCC Highways on the matter. LK questioned how many houses had been flooded in that area? RC explained that 6 houses in Lakeside Avenue had previously been flooded because of the issues with Faller Fields basin. RC further explained that the problems there also affected the end of Mount Pleasant as well as Lakeside Avenue.

LK advised that FODDC were only aware of issues on the other side of the watercourse and that the issues at Faller Fields was the responsibility of GCC Highways, as such FODDC felt that it was up to GCC Highways to utilise their funds towards flood alleviation at Faller Fields.

RC advised that she would show LK the problem areas at Faller Fields and Lakeside Avenue so that he had a clearer understanding of the area. LK agreed that FODDC would work towards a solution.

Prior to the meeting members were provided with a copy of the response letter from GCC Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) relating to the proposal (Ref:P1881/15/FUL/LLFA) on land east of Par Four Lane Lydney. It was advised that the proposal was for the erection of 347 residential units, access and highways, open space, landscaping and associated infrastructure comprising phase 2 'Higher Lydney Park'.

The response made by GCC Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) in regard to surface water flood risk and management was that *'Modelling and reports conclude the addition of development on the Lakeside catchment will not increase flood risk if restricted to the greenfield runoff rate up to and including the 1 in 100 year design storm event. The applicant's drainage strategy proposes to restrict flow to QBar (2.5 l/s/ha) for events up to and including the 1 in 100 year event. This reflects the conclusion of the reports, and is welcomed as it will go towards potentially benefiting Lakeside Avenue. This also ensures the development is in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Considering the above, the LLFA has no opposition to the principle of the development at this site; however the LLFA is unable to recommend a decision of approval due to a number of unknowns/inconsistencies regarding the drainage strategy and drainage layout. Future*

Action: FODDC to work with GCC Highways on issues at Faller Fields

Action : RC to meet with LK on site to show him the issues faced at Faller Fields and Lakeside Avenue

management of Sustainable Drainage Systems is a matter that will be dealt with by the Local Planning Authority and has not, therefore, been considered by the Lead Local Flood Authority’.

JS expressed concern with the developers plans following a recent presentation (presented by the developer at a previous meeting of the Town Council) whereby the developer did not know what watercourse their development would be feeding into and although they could provide plans, they did not link up to the existing watercourse. The present Oakdale development have experienced problems with the attenuation, (the soil contained a lot of clay) so concern was raised as to what would happen with attenuation ponds for the proposed site? And who would maintain them? Would it not be a ‘Grampian Condition’ as part of the planning application?

LK advised that FODDC Planning would seek in the application for the attenuation ponds to be owned by the residents that live in the houses on site (a possible condition in their deeds), so that if the Council had to take enforcement options (although the housing may be maintained by a maintenance company) they would be responsible for them.

RC expressed concern that two major developers had proposed plans to build in the same area of Lydney and consideration from both parties regarding water run-off from their developments needed urgent attention (as they could both potentially end up in the same watercourse and effectively end up at Lakeside Avenue again). RC further queried under whose remit it was to monitor/inspect the whole development of such sites to make sure that everything was carried out as per the proposed plans? (as in previous experience with Faller Fields it was left up to the residents to ask FODDC to monitor).

LK advised that although the Planning Authority set the conditions, the inspections didn’t need to be monitored by FODDC. All that the developer had to do is to report to FODDC that they had conformed to the proposed plans.

JS questioned whether water companies, such as Severn Trent, would take on responsibility of the attenuation ponds, watercourses and SUDS as they had proven to have an effect on the water companies sewer/drainage systems.

MJ advised that Severn Trent would not be willing to take on responsibility as they relied on the developers to ensure that water is taken away from their sewer/drainage systems. Severn Trent did agree that surface water management was a big problem factor throughout the Forest of Dean however their stance was that they would continue to work with the developers and the planning authority to ensure that their sewer/drainage systems were

Action: LK to confirm ‘Grampian Condition’ in place.

Action: separate working party meeting to be set up with the developers (Robert Hitchins, RedRow & MMC) and the local authorities ie Lydney Town

	<p>maintained.</p> <p>Following a short discussion it was suggested that the developers along with the local authorities ie Lydney Town Council, GCC and FODDC (Local Planning Authority) should organise a separate working party meeting to discuss the concerns and agree a way forward in regard to the future management of Sustainable Drainage Systems for the aforementioned site.</p>	<p>Council, GCC and FODDC (Local Planning Authority) to discuss the future management of Sustainable Drainage Systems</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>NATIONAL FLOOD DEFENCE FORUM</p> <p>Prior to the meeting members were provided with a copy of the final version of the Lydney Community Flood Resilience Plan. Tabitha Whitcombe, National Flood Defence Forum (TW) provided a verbal update on the Plan advising that the document was presented to Lydney Town Council at a previous Full Council meeting whereby members had the chance to peruse the document and suggest any improvements. It was advised that a few amendments had been made following suggestions by the Town Council.</p> <p>Following a short discussion, a further few minor adjustments were suggested such as checking that the telephone number for FODDC 'out of hours' was up to date (as in previous experience there had been an issue with the telephone number). It was also highlighted that the details for 'Floodline' needed to be checked as it was believed that the email address and contact telephone numbers were incorrect. Other suggestions included the list of vulnerable people, it was suggested that rather than name the vulnerable people there should be a contact number for members who would assist vulnerable people in the area.</p> <p>TW advised that the National Flood Defence Forum had a meeting scheduled for Tuesday 29 March 2016 whereby she would forward on the suggestions/improvements made to the plan. Once all amendments had been made, the plan would then be rolled-out to the public with the assistance of FODDC.</p>	<p>Action: Further amendments to be made to the plan with an update on the rolling-out of the plan to be provided at the next meeting (TW)</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>FLOODING TO COOKSON TERRACE</p> <p>Prior to the start of the meeting members were provided with photographs showing the recent flooding experienced to properties at Cookson Terrace, Lydney.</p> <p>Terry Richards, Lydney Resident (TR) thanked members for accepting him onto the Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence group and hoped that his attendance and knowledge of the area would assist in finding possible solutions to the flooding issues in Lydney and also to the issues he has personally experienced with flooding to his own property at Cookson Terrace, Lydney.</p>	

	<p>TR advised that some of the Cookson Terrace properties had been in situ since 1859, so it was believed that the current flooding experienced there was as a result of a recent issue.</p> <p>TR further explained that the wall between the fishing lake and Cookson Terrace had become flooded and also the drains had become so full with soil and silt that they had become overwhelmed and flooded following the recent spate of wet weather. He also advised that the overflow of water appeared to start at the end of the lake where the storm drain would get overfilled and it would take 7 -10 days for the lake to reduce back down after a downpour of rain, which he felt suggested that the run-off water was not soaking away properly.</p> <p>Following a short discussion JS queried whether it would be possible for FODDC to carry out a CCTV survey in the area to investigate whether there was a potential blockage causing the run-off water to back up? DM advised that FODDC were already investigating ownership of the land and would be carrying out a land search. FODDC would then be of a better understanding as to whose responsibility it was to carry out mitigation work in the area. The bridge, thought to have collapsed/have reduced flow, would also be investigated.</p> <p>MJ advised that Severn Trent had been called out to the properties at Cookson Terrace on Saturday 6 February 2016 due to the properties flooding in the basement and the sewers backing up. Severn Trent assets were ok however it was believed that the flooding had been caused by the overflow of water from the fishing lake (Bendalls Lake). TR advised that during the Winter months the lake would 'overtop' and it would happen about 3 times a year. MJ advised that Severn Trent could install sealed covers to the drains but it would need to be fully investigated first as the sewage system wasn't failing it was just not coping with the water from the lake as it was not designed for so much additional water.</p> <p>Following a further short discussion it was agreed that FODDC would investigate land ownership and arrange a site meeting with Terry Richards at Cookson Terrace to discuss a way forward in regard to the future management of Sustainable Drainage Systems for the aforementioned site. Their findings would then be reported back at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Action: FODDC to investigate land ownership of the fishing lake (Bendalls Lake) and walkway behind Cookson Terrace and arrange a site meeting with Terry Richards to evaluate the flow under the bridge.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>A.O.B RC advised that on Thursday 28 January 2016 the Trash Screen behind number 115 Lakeside Avenue had once again become blocked. This resulted in subsequent issues again with FODDC contractors advising that they had been to site and cleared when they hadn't. LK advised that it was quite normal for the residents to clear the Trash Screen as there are so many of them throughout the</p>	

	<p>Country however the frequency of the blocked Trash Screen behind number 115 Lakeside Avenue raised a few questions such as does the Trash Screen need to be re-instated? Do the residents have to continuously clear it? DM advised that FODDC had agreed to clear the Trash Screen at present as a 'good will gesture' due to ownership issues. RC advised that the resident of 115 Lakeside Avenue refused to clear it due to implications with the ownership issues and felt that if he had cleared it may have implied that he had accepted ownership.</p> <p>JS expressed frustration that the Trash Screen ownership issue had been on-going for over 3 years and felt that either FODDC needed to take ownership or they needed to take enforcement action to make sure that the Trash Screen remained clear due to its impact in relation to the risk of Flooding in Lakeside Avenue.</p> <p>Following a short discussion it was agreed that FODDC would investigate the Trash Screen ownership and arrange a site meeting with the resident of 115 Lakeside Avenue and ownership/enforcement would be addressed. Their findings would then be reported back at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Action: FODDC to investigate the Trash Screen ownership (FODDC Legal Team) and arrange a site meeting with the resident of 115 Lakeside Avenue. (LK/DM)</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>ACTION PLAN/ACTIONS PENDING Action points for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FODDC to work with GCC Highways on issues at Faller Fields • RC to meet with LK on site to show him the issues faced at Faller Fields and Lakeside Avenue • LK to confirm 'Grampian Condition' in place • Working party meeting to be set up with the developers (Robert Hitchins, RedRow & MMC) and the local authorities ie Lydney Town Council, GCC and FODDC (Local Planning Authority) to discuss the future management of Sustainable Drainage Systems • Further amendments to be made to the Lydney Community Flood Resilience Plan with an update on the rolling-out of the plan to be provided at the next meeting (TW) • FODDC to investigate land ownership of the fishing lake (Bendalls Lake) and walkway behind Cookson Terrace and arrange a site meeting with Terry Richards to evaluate the flow under the bridge • FODDC to investigate the Trash Screen ownership (FODDC Legal Team) and arrange a site meeting with the resident of 115 Lakeside Avenue (LK/DM) 	
<p>8.</p>	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING <i>To Be Confirmed</i></p>	

Meeting closed at 11.35 am