Minutes of the Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence Meeting held on Thursday 2nd March 2017 in Lydney Town Council Chambers at 10.30 am

PRESENT:

Cllr Brian Pearman, Lydney Town Council (BP)

Cllr Alan Preest, Lydney Town Council (AP)

Cllr Rose Christodoulides, Lakeside Resident Rep/Lydney Town Council (RC)

Edward Argent, Robert Hitchins Ltd (EA)
Jayne Smailes, Lydney Town Council (JS)

Dawn Morgan, Forest of Dean District Council (DM) Peter Siret, Gloucestershire County Council (PS)

Cllr Colin Legg, Lakeside Resident Rep/Lydney Town Council (CL)

Chantelle Wittke, Environment Agency (CW)
Martin Young, Environment Agency (MY)

Josh Mogg, Severn Trent (JM)

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Dave Street (Lydney Town Council)

Lawrence King (Forest of Dean District Council)

District Cllr Marilyn Smart (Forest of Dean District Council)

Andrew Bryant (Watts Group)
John Thurston (Watts Group)

Cllr Bob Berryman (Lydney Town Council)

ITEM		ACTION
1.	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS Cllr Brian Pearman (BP) chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2.	NOTES OF LAST MEETING (24 January 2017) One amendment – Cllr Preest apologies to be noted. The meeting notes were accepted as a true record.	
3.	ATTENUATION MEASURES BP requested an update from GCC Highways/Amey regarding the maintenance to the balancing pond/attenuation by the A48 bypass however as there was no representative from GCC Highways/Amey present at the meeting, no update was available. RC requested that FODDC/LTC chase up a response from GCC Highways/Amey along with a copy of a 'programme of maintenance'	Action: FODDC/LTC - response/update from GCC Highways/Amey re. maintenance of attenuation/
	for the attenuation.	maintenance programme

4. COOKSON TERRACE

BP requested an update from FODDC regarding attenuation measures/installation of different styles of bunds following any/all contact with Western Power (re. issue with overhead voltage cables) near Plummer's Brook and Cookson Terrace.

DM advised that the response from Western Power was that unfortunately the construction of bunds would not be possible due to the high voltage cables/direction of cables overhead, therefore the construction of bunds near Cookson Terrace was no longer considered an option.

DM further advised however that FODDC were instead looking into ways of 'diverting' the direction of water flow with the option of utilising a natural area/field and carrying out a 'level survey' to encourage water flow to Plummer's Brook/second fishing lake and hopefully away from Cookson Terrace properties.

5. MEAD LANE

BP requested an update from the Environment Agency (EA) regarding the established ownership of the culvert/attenuation measure at Mead lane and future maintenance arrangements of such.

MY advised that although the subject of 'ownership' of the culvert/attenuation measure at Mead lane was still under investigation the Asset Performance Team at the Environment Agency had permissive powers and were in the process of pursuing clearance work, which due to funding/end of financial year, would be duly considered over the coming months.

MY further advised that as part of the investigation into 'ownership' of said culvert/attenuation measure that if it was found that it was on the highway then it would either fall to GCC Highways/Amey or Lydney Town Council to address under its Riparian Ownership responsibilities (as the Environment Agency do not own such culvert/attenuation measures they just build them).

In response to the agenda item to receive an update from the Discharge Maintenance Team at the Environment Agency re. records of how many times Severn Trent had notified them in regard to discharging in the Lyd, MY advised that no record of discharge had been provided as Severn Trent have a large pipe that goes out to the estuary, so it was felt that there had been a little confusion as this item referred to East Marsh, which was a separate issue. Noted.

BP requested an update from Severn Trent re. copy of any plans/modelling that is in place as part of their Sewer flooding solutions in Lydney. In response JM referred to a previous update in which it was advised that Severn Trent Asset creation Team underwent a number of manhole and private drainage surveys earlier

Action: LTC/JS to seek land ownership of culvert/attenuation measure at Mead lane. this year, notably around Mead Lane, Church Road etc, however no further work had since been conducted due to Lydney being rated as 'low level' on Severn Trent's hydraulic flood register and Severn Trent's prioritisation throughout the business focusing on internal flooding and external to property boundary.

RC expressed frustration that no further work had been conducted, especially as it had been previously reported that 'raw sewerage' had been present outside the buildings on Mead Lane. In response JM advised that there had been a maintenance issue at the Sewer but that issue had since been rectified. Furthermore, JM re-iterated that it was vital that all customers report any sewer flooding to Severn Trent as this enables Severn Trent to then record and document the data on its hydraulic flood register which is what Severn Trent rely heavily on when prioritising work.

JS expressed concern that Lydney had been rated as 'low level' priority on Severn Trent's hydraulic flood register especially given previous flooding issues in Lydney and the fact that Lydney lies within a flood plain and as such queried whether Severn Trent had in fact received all the relevant information required for the modelling scheme? Furthermore, it was proposed that Severn Trent check/gain such data from one of the Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence members (Mr Stewart Charters, Watts Group) who had a list of what was required for the modelling scheme in respect to Mead Lane. JM agreed he would gain Mr Charters details from JS and pursue accordingly.

Action: LTC/JS to provide Josh Mogg (Severn Trent) with Mr Charters (Watts Group) Contact details.

6. FLOOD RESILIENCE PLANNING

MY advised that as part of action on flooding in Lydney, the Environment Agency -Flood Resilience Team would organise a table top exercise relating to the 'Lydney Community Flood Resilience Plan' that is in place. The exercise would give 'rapid response scenarios' which would 'stress test' the current plan and help identify areas that may need modifying to better suit a rapid response. Furthermore, it was advised that the exercise would be run on a week day (Wednesday 19th April 2017 at 10:00am) and would require half a day.

JS reminded all members that as they had previously given contact details for the plan 'if life is at risk' that it was important that they endeavour to attend the exercise.

Action: LTC Admin Assistant to e-mail all Cllrs/those listed on Lydney Community Flood Plan to ask that they attend the exercise

7. FLOOD ZONES FOR LYDNEY

Further to an action point raised at the previous meeting JS queried whether any extra funding was available from GCC towards the flooding scheme, given that Lydney was in a 'Flood Zone'? AP advised that due to the end of the financial year (budget being set etc) for GCC he was unable to further any action regarding funding (prior to County Council elections in May 2017).

JS asked whether there was any further action as to why Lydney was deemed as 'Flood Zone 3' and whether this had an affect on planning applications (due to a member from the EA confirming that such Zone numbering was not deemed definitive on applications). In response BP advised that he believed it was up to the Local Planning Authority/FODDC to determine such, depending on the type of building/housing contained within the application however clarification on the matter from FODDC LPA Officer would enable members to understand fully the stance on Flood Zones in Lydney.

AP advised that he would check that the Flood Zone Map was 'up to date' and report back further details i.e Map/Financial Funding availability to the next meeting. (subject to the next meeting being convened after May 2017). Noted.

Action: AP to check that the Flood Zone Map is 'up to date' and report back further details i.e Map/Financial Funding availability to the next meeting. (subject to the next meeting being convened after May 2017).

8. A.O.B

BP asked whether FODDC had cleared the watercourse/ removed the fly-tipped waste from FODDC owned land adjacent to the watercourse from Crump Farm to Lakeside Avenue? DM advised that the area had been cleared however unfortunately that particular area was prone to fly-tippers and as such more debris had been placed since which had been reported to FODDC Waste Management department for immediate clearance.

CL queried whether FODDC could look to put up some sort of barrier to protect its land/prevent further issues of fly-tipping in that area? DM advised that as it had been reported to FODDC Waste Management department they would be investigating possibilities.

Edward Argent (EA) advised that further bank clearance work to enable FODDC 'new' Trash screen (sited 12 metres up the watercourse from where the inlet is currently sited on land owned/managed by FODDC/Hitchins) was due to take place imminently. Furthermore it was advised that Robert Hitchins Ltd had started construction work on the second bund next to Crump Farm which was expected to be completed in the following week.

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*	Scheme	Est Scheme Cost		
	LAKESIDE AVENUE (additional funding from GCC) TOTAL FUNDING	40,000.00 5,000.00 45,000.00		
	Penstock CCTV of culverts near marsh area Upstream Attenuation - Bund 1 Upstream Attenuation - Bund 2 Bank clearance Trash Screen and culvert extension	7,650.00 240.00 185.05 185.05 1,400.00 TBC		
	TOTAL SPEND to date BALANCE (2/3/17)	9,660.10 35,339.90		
	DM provided a finance update from For at Lakeside, Lydney:			
9.	 Action PLAN/ACTIONS PENDING Action points for next meeting: FODDC/LTC - response/update from GCC Highways/Amey re. maintenance of attenuation/ maintenance programme LTC/JS to seek land ownership of culvert/attenuation measure at Mead lane. LTC/JS to provide Josh Mogg (Severn Trent) with Mr Charters (Watts Group) Contact details. LTC Admin Assistant to e-mail all Cllrs/those listed on Lydney Community Flood Plan to ask that they attend the exercise AP to check that the Flood Zone Map is 'up to date' and report back further details i.e Map/Financial Funding availability to the next meeting. (subject to the next meeting being convened 			
10.	after May 2017). DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 15 June 2017 at Lydney Town Council Chambers at 10.30am			

Meeting closed at 11.13 am