

Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group Report March 22

The Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group continues to push the relevant authorities to recognise the effects of Climate Change, that are currently affecting Buckden now. Issues such as the two flooding issues within the village.

Firstly, we believe that the cases of flash flooding to the north end of the High Street on several occasions over the last couple of years, is in the most part, due to excess flows of water from roads and fields to the west of the A1, into the Taylors Lane culvert and then backing up the High Street drainage system.

Excellent work and lobbying from this council has prompted Cambridgeshire County Council, to start the works to the drains in the High Street and it is hoped that this will solve this problem in the future.

After numerous meetings with the LLFA (Local Flood Authority) we have pushed for along with other councillor's, what we feel is the root cause of flooding to Taylors Lane and the High Street, ie the lack of measures to hold back and slow heavy rainfall from land to the west of the A1 (mainly owned by The Church Commissioner's)

Further to our meeting with the LLFA on 17 February 2022, Hilary Ellis who has been exceptionally helpful and resourceful, has instigated a review, and it would seem that they are shortly to tackle this problem in conjunction with Natural England and contact landowners with information on flood mitigation measures that are available and the associated grants that can be sought. We will monitor progress through further monthly meetings that we are having with the LLFA

We are also monitoring the Bloor Homes development attenuation basin to the north of the site, with regular daily photographic evidence over a 21 day period, we will pass this evidence onto the LLFA. The basin is not functioning as intended, in periods of dry weather it should drain down any excess rainfall, that it has accumulated and be completely dry ready for the next rainfall event.

This is not the case and the water level remains more or less a constant just 1 meter below the rim of the basin and never drains away.

Therefore, this large body of water is presenting a threat to the residents of Springfield Close, who's houses are lower than the Bloor Homes site.

Allan Jones.

Buckden Parish Coucillor - Large Scale Planning Committee - Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group.