

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

FLOOD ADVISORY GROUP

Minutes 23.02.2024

In Attendance: John Thelwall (Chair); Scott Kitson; Gordon Wyatt; Liz Olding

1. Apologies for absence:

Anne Howell-Jones

Linda Upham

Martin Hassall

2. Introduction of Scott Kitson: A resident of Taylors Lane, he has volunteered to join the Group as a village member.

3. Risk Hotspots:

a. The “Risk Hotspots and Action Plan” was discussed.

b. The list of risk hotspots as drafted was agreed.

c. JT to report blocked storm drains at Mill Road and Greenway to the LLFA again.

d. Flooding off the roundabout onto High Street south: to be taken up with National Highways when the roundabout is to be remodelled.

4. Flood Action Plan:

a. There was a discussion about whether the storm water road drains to the north of Taylors Lane discharge into the open culvert at Taylors Lane. It is thought probable they do which in times of heavy rain adds significantly to the volume of water in the brook. It also appears to slow the flow from upstream, increasing the backing up of the brook and therefore increasing the risk of flooding on Taylors Lane.

b. There was concern about the ponding on the A1 north immediately south of Hardwick Lane. This is a matter for National Highways.

c. It was agreed to put names and phone numbers of the equipment shed lock in the Roundabout every 3 months (subject to those persons' consent) to remind residents how to access the shed at need.

- d. Efforts should be made to identify farmers who own the land bordering the brook on Taylors Lane west of the A1 and to talk to them about the need to gather up hedge trimmings from the brook to stop them being swept downstream into the pipes.
 - e. One suggestion is to deepen and widen the brook west of the A1 to slow the flow.
 - f. Marina flood alerts – investigate the possibility of yellow and red warning lights at both the Marinas to alert residents of flood warnings and alerts.
 - g. The Parish council, in its communication section in the Roundabout should remind residents how to report flood issues on a regular basis – say every 3 months.
 - h. Add National Highways to point 4.11
5. Evacuation Plans and Emergency accommodation:
- a. It was felt there is no need for these and in any event it is unreasonable to expect the Village Hall to keep beds and bedding available for an event that is likely to be vanishingly rare. Any residents flooded out should be able to find overnight accommodation either at one of the hotels or with friends.
6. AOB:
- a. SK and GW want to be present when the LLFA survey takes place.
 - b. Investigate the possibility of widening and deepening the brook between the A1 southbound and 7 Taylors Lane.
 - c. JT to ask LLFA again for a copy of the survey done before the works were done on the High Street culvert.
 - d. There was discussion about whether water runs off the A1 southbound carriageway across the grass verge and onto Taylors Lane in very heavy rain. SK was not certain but it was agreed to ask National Highways to look at the possibility of digging a ditch in the verge to connect to the existing ditch further away.

Date of next meeting – tba in April