



Worplesdon Flood Forum Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held as a hybrid meeting on Friday 25 February 2022 at 10am

Present (in person or via Zoom):

Ms B Ahier – Worplesdon Parish Council
Cllr R Brothwell – Guildford Borough Council
Ms D Brown – Office of Angela Richardson, MP
Mr A Dillon - Resident
Mrs V Fear – Worplesdon Parish Council
Mr S Knight – Resident
Ms J Longman – Environment Agency
Ms C Mason – Thames Water
Mr & Mrs McIntyre - Residents
Cllr A McShee – Guildford Borough Council
Cllr B McShee – Guildford Borough Council

Cllr N Mitchell – Worplesdon Parish Council
Cllr J Messinger – Worplesdon Parish Council
Mrs Angela Richardson MP (Chairman of the Flood Forum Meeting)
Mr B Shirley – Guildford Borough Council
Mr A Treasure – Surrey County Council
Mr P Trevena – Worplesdon Parish Council
Mr G Whittaker – Surrey County Council
Mrs G White – Worplesdon Parish Council
Cllr K Witham – Surrey County Council

Apologies:

Ms J Ashton – Resident
Mr & Mrs Bridger - Residents
Cllr A Creese – Worplesdon Parish Council
Mr A Bolton – Surrey Wildlife Trust
Mr R Everest – Resident
Mr & Mrs Jeffreys – Residents

M. Kelly – Environment Agency
Mr J Lewis – Surrey County Council
Mr G Melly – University of Surrey
Mr T Peebles – Surrey County Council
Mr J Wade – Surrey County Council

Residents are reminded that for items to be added to the Flood Forum agenda, reporting codes from the appropriate authority should be included with their requests. This allows the agencies involved to address the issue/s more effectively.

Meeting commenced 10.10am

Mrs Angela Richardson MP introduced herself as Chairman of the meeting, and welcomed all those present, in person and online, to the meeting. Mrs Richardson thanked Mrs White (Clerk to the Council) and Mrs Fear (Assistant Clerk) for organising the Flood Forum meeting and ensuring that all parties had received a comprehensive agenda well in advance of the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed by the Chairman.

Pitch Place



Map: A322 Worplesdon Road, Pitch Place



Photo taken outside Honda garage (August 2020)

Agenda Item 3 - Location: Former Ship Inn public house/Honda garage, Worplesdon Road

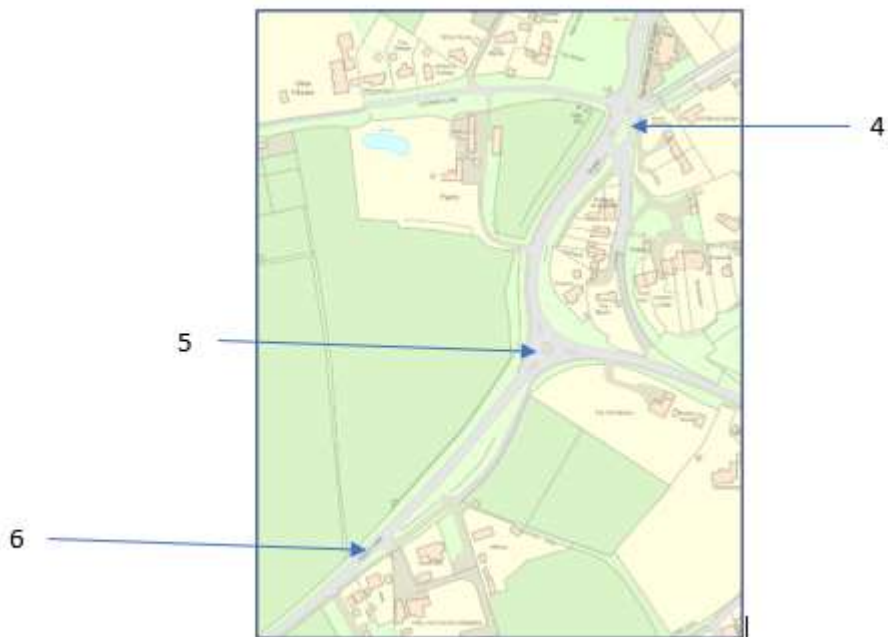
Issue: Significant flooding has historically occurred at this location.

2022: Surrey County Council update: Further investigations at this location highlighted tree root ingress into the drains. The tree roots have now been cut through, and no further reports of flooding at this location have been received.

During the meeting it was decided to strike this item from future agendas because no further reports of flooding had been received for this location.

10.13am Ms C Mason (Thames Water) joined the meeting via Zoom.

Worplesdon



Map: A322 roundabout junction with Holly Lane, Perry Hill

Agenda Item 4 - Location: Flooding of service road beside the White Lyon and Dragon



Photographs showing the puddle, although the rain had ceased over 12 hours prior to these photos being taken, so the water had significantly receded by this point

Issue: The large puddle is continuing to collect on the service road during heavy rain. SCC to update.
2022: Surrey County Council update: The issue is caused and exacerbated by the residents at St Mary's whose driveway surfacing, and failure to maintain their own drains, is causing silt and gravel to wash down. Local residents to resolve issues.

Mrs White provided further background to the issue. At the meeting it was decided that Mrs White should organise a meeting for all residents, representatives of St Mary's Church, and the owner of the White Lyon and Dragon to be invited to attend, in addition to Mrs Richardson MP.

10.17am Mr B Shirley (Guildford Borough Council) joined the meeting via Zoom.

Agenda Item 5 - Location: Holly Lane/Worplesdon Road roundabout



Issue: The roundabout continues to flood. It has been repeatedly reported to SCC. SCC to update.
2022: Surrey County Council update: This issue requires significant expensive traffic management due to the location. It is logged as an ongoing issue and will be addressed when resources permit.

Cllr Witham stated that he had spoken to Mr A Treasure (Surrey County Council) about this ongoing issue. Cllr Witham had also emailed, and had, as yet, not received a response to his request for capital

funding from Surrey County Council. Cllr Witham to contact Mr Treasure and Mr Treasure's line manager to identify a suitable way forward.

Agenda Item 6 - Location: Holly Lane between Worplesdon Road roundabout and Pitmore Farm



Photos show the packed drains on Holly Lane and on the upper roundabout

Issue: Surface water drains blocked with soil/grass on Holly Lane. This item has been reported to SCC. SCC to update.

2022: Surrey County Council update: The drain has seized so cannot currently be lifted. It is a low priority due to its position within the drainage scheme at this location, and will be fixed when finances (and associated traffic management) allow.

The meeting attendees discussed that whilst this only appears to be a blocked drain, it is disappointing that this is not included in the bigger picture of flooding around this location. This is a flooding hotspot, on a 40mph road, where speeds are regularly exceeded, and presents a danger to life.

Mr Knight commented that a similar issue exists in Jacobs Well, where a blocked drain, reported to Surrey County Council (Report reference code: 2060618) also remains unaddressed.

10.40am Cllr Keith Witham gives his apologies and leaves the meeting.

Worplesdon and Rickford



Map showing Fox Corner, Rickford, up to Perry Hill

Agenda Item 7 - Location: Three residential properties at Rickford [Holly Bank, Rickford Bungalow and Ellesmere House] experienced flooding



Issue: Two of these properties (Ellesmere and Rickford Bungalow) experienced external foul water flooding and surface water flooding, and two (Holly Bank and Rickford Bungalow) experienced water gurgling/bubbling in toilets during 20/10/2021. This item has been reported to SCC (surface water) and to Thames Water (sewage). SCC to update.

2022: Surrey County Council update: A site visit was arranged immediately after the last Flood Forum Meeting in November 2021. During the site visit it was determined that: one property had a drain running across their property which was constructed out of welded metal drums. These drums are now collapsing, causing an obstruction to the flow of water, and once the water crosses the road, it crosses SCC land, then is obstructed at a neighbouring parcel of land through a lack of ditch maintenance. SCC have written to the landowner (in December 2021) asking for action to be taken to facilitate the fall of water away from the Rickford properties.

Mr McIntyre highlighted that on the other side of the road to their properties, there is a chain link fence acting as a boundary between land parcels. The fencing is inadvertently causing a blockage of debris. The SCC action of cutting back the vegetation over the culvert is still outstanding. Mrs Brown to send a letter from Angela Richardson MP's office to chase the landowner/solicitor responsible regarding the outstanding ditch maintenance and the chain link fencing. A meeting with all the residents affected by the flooding to be organised to follow up these issues, together with those relating to the collapsing oil drum drain system.

Agenda Item 8 - Location: Perry Hill Antiques, Worplesdon



Issue: Resident/business owner has reported repeated flooding of the property and premises, forcing the closure of the business on multiple occasions. This has been reported to SCC. SCC to provide update.

2022: Surrey County Council update: SCC undertook a thorough investigation at this location following the property flooding. It was observed that BT had erroneously located some of their cabling within a drain by smashing into it. Awaiting BT to relocate their cable and remedy the damage they have caused.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to BT by Angela Richardson's office including the appropriate reference number for the report from SCC. Worplesdon Parish Council to simultaneously chase Jason Lewis of Surrey County Council. The business owner from Perry Hill Antiques to contact Angela Richardson's office to confirm that he would like her to further the issue on his behalf.

Mr G Whittaker (SCC Flooding Team) to pass this on to Highways,

Mrs Richardson highlighted that she would like Mr Whittaker to report back to SCC how frustrating and disappointing it is for residents when there appears to be lack of joined up thinking and initiative.

Mr Trevena (Head Groundsman at Worplesdon Parish Council) highlighted that when the Surrey County Council drain inspection took place there were multiple vehicles present. There were blocked drains (still blocked now) adjacent to the site which could have been cleared whilst the vehicles were in the immediate vicinity.

Fairlands



Agenda Item 9 - Location: Aldershot Road (between Newlands and Hunts Farm)



This photograph shows the water after it had receded to the central white lines (October 2020)

Issue: Serious flooding of the carriageway, which has been reported to SCC. Grips and ditches need to be maintained including cleaning letterbox gullies. This has been reported to SCC. SCC to provide update.

2021 Comments/Action: SCC highlight that this is on a rodding route. It is purely the volume of silt and debris being washed into the gulleys. Peter Trevena strims the sightlines and clears the letterbox gulleys in this area. Cans frequently get wedged in them. SCC to investigate and add to the list of proposed schemes for the installation of a 1m to 2m section of dropped kerb along the footpath to allow the water to drain freely into the adjacent woodland. Mrs Fear (WPC) to include this item in the next newsletter.

2022: Surrey County Council update: SCC will look into installing at least 1 gully, discharging directly to the watercourse, in the next financial year (2022/23).

No action has been taken by SCC to date. Mr Trevena has cut in a few grips at this location, on both sides of the road. SCC to be asked to provide a more specific date as to when these works will be undertaken.

Agenda Item 10 - Location: 4 Gravetts Lane

Issue: Multiple issues – sewage has flooded the garden of the property and manhole covers in the road keep lifting.



2021 Comments/Action: The resident highlighted that sewage has covered her back garden twice in the last two weeks. SCC have already been out to site, but Thames Water took two weeks to visit, and still haven't cleared the sewage. Number 4 has a problem, but the adjoining property does not. Three drains in the road surge during heavy rainfall events (these are in the vicinity of Frosburys).



This has been a long-standing issue at this location (noted on previous Flood Forum agendas), which has previously been reported to Thames Water. The last time this affected the resident was 11 years ago, but has occurred three times in 2021 alone. Resident to email photos to Angela Richardson MP, and Mrs Fear (WPC). Mrs White (WPC) to include this item in the email to Carley Mason (Thames Water).

2022: Surrey County Council update: SCC have confirmed that the camber on the road means that this issue is solely the responsibility of Thames Water. To receive an update from Carley Mason, Thames Water.

Ms Mason (Thames Water) explained that the Thames Water team attended at the premises in December 2021 but the visit was erroneously scheduled as a 'look-see' rather than the CCTV visit which was required. A CCTV inspection has now been scheduled, and Ms Mason will provide an update to Worplesdon Parish Council (as facilitators of Worplesdon Flood Forum) as soon as the report has been received.

Jacobs Well



Map showing area around Jacobs Well Recreation Ground

Agenda Item 11 - Location: Fallen tree across brook, off Jacobs Well Recreation Ground



Issue: In March 2021, a resident from highlighted a large fallen tree to the Groundsman. Due to the location of the tree stump, and the tree now blocking the brook, this item has been repeatedly referred to SCC as it is SCC's responsibility to remedy.

2021 Comments/Action: SCC state that the tree is on unregistered land. Brent Shirley (GBC) asked if the tree was lying in the watercourse. Andy Treasure (SCC) and Brent Shirley (GBC) to liaise and resolve this issue between them. Andy Treasure to liaise with resident, as the resident kindly offered to allow access via their garden.

2022: Surrey County Council update: SCC inspected the location because of the significant risk of flooding to properties in the locality, and have determined that, at this precise location, whilst the verge remains the ownership of the property developer, the tree is the responsibility of UK Power Networks (formerly SE Power Networks), who have been instructed in writing to deal with the fallen tree.



Photos showing how the trunk has further collapsed into the watercourse, and these show the debris accumulated during the recent storms (left), and once the debris was removed by Mr Trevena (right)

Mr Whittaker (SCC) has further investigated and determined that the tree should actually be the responsibility of the estate developer to remove. Mr Whittaker has written to the developer (who is still the registered landowner) and stated that this should be remedied within the next 4 weeks. Mr Whittaker expressed his thanks to Mr Trevena for removing the debris that had gathered as a result of a series of back-to-back storms.

Mr Knight asked if the name of the developer/landowner could be known.

Mrs White highlighted that the tree is clearly resting on the fence, and that there are additional trees which are looking in poor condition (ash trees), so will the developer address these issues at the same time as removing the trunk?

Mr Whittaker and Mr Treasure to discuss this issue offline to ensure satisfactory resolution.

Agenda Item 12 - Location: White House Pond – Further 10-year licence application

Issue: Worplesdon Parish Council (WPC) has agreed to maintain the pond for a further 10 years. Surrey County Council were approached with regard to renewal of the lease. Anticipated cost to maintain this pond is £30,000 over 10 years. WPC to provide update.

2021 Comments/Action: Mrs White (WPC) Heads of Terms were agreed in June. Scheduled maintenance is due to take place commencing December. Cllr Keith Witham (SCC) has chased this issue already. Mrs White to follow up.

2022: Worplesdon Parish Council: The agreement has now been signed and is in place, and works have just been completed on the pond.

Mrs White confirmed that this has now been signed, and as such this item can be removed from the next agenda.



Agenda Item 13 - Location: Treebys/Queenhythe



Issue: To establish land ownership/responsibility for maintenance of this ditch.

Comments: The removal of a garden fence by a resident has caused a trip hazard adjacent to an alleyway. The alleyway is well used by local residents, some of whom have mobility issues. Due to the lack of street lighting in the area, this presents a significant danger.

Additionally, debris has been intermittently thrown into the ditch plus it appears that there is new pipework discharging from the garden of No 53 Queenhythe into the ditch.

2020 Action: This was referred to Mr Giles and Mr Crampin, both from SCC, to determine responsibility for this location outside of this meeting, and if it is SCC's responsibility, to suggest options to remedy the situation relating to the trip hazard.

2021 Comments/Action: Cllr Keith Witham (SCC) has confirmed with Land Registry that it's SCC land. A SCC representative is trying to resolve the issue, but may need to resort to legal resolution. Jason Lewis (SCC) confirmed that the ditch flows and empties satisfactorily, and confirmed that a post and rail fence has been ordered to prevent falls into the ditch, but there is no timescale for this to be installed. Cllr A Creese offered to liaise with the resident.

2022: Surrey County Council have confirmed that a fence is to be installed at this location but a date has not yet been finalised.

This item is to remain on the agenda until a fence/barrier has been installed by SCC.

Agenda Item 14 - Location: Woking Road/Salt Box Road roundabout – Spring 2020



Photograph showing Woking Road/Salt Box Road flooding – Spring 2020

Issue: Severe flooding during heavy rainfall caused major traffic issues on this main arterial route.

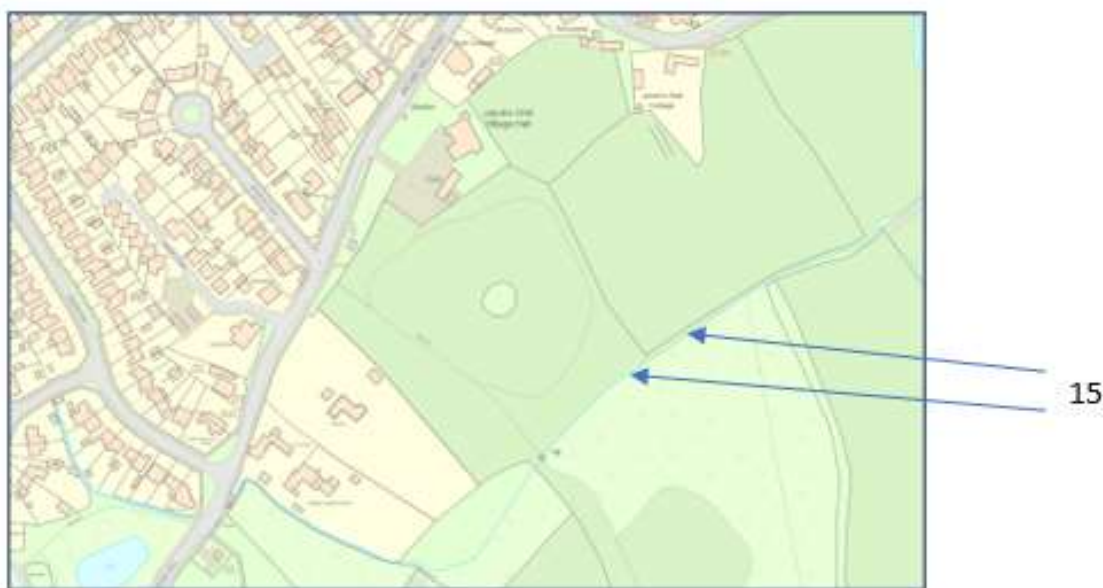
Comments: Discussions and site visits have taken place with a view to resolving the long-standing issues at this location by way of the provision of a rain garden. **To receive an update from SCC.**

2021 Comments/Action: This site has been an issue since 2005. A site meeting took place between Mrs White (WPC), Ian Fowler (SCC) and the SCC senior drainage engineer. The whole scheme is now expected to cost between £300k and 500k. The Senior Engineer at SCC has designed and specified the scheme, and Andy Treasure (SCC) is confident that this scheme will be undertaken during the next financial year (2022/23), with the Flooding Team at SCC liaising with the Highways Team to facilitate the capital scheme ASAP.

2022: Gaynor White (Worplesdon Parish Council) is still awaiting the formal report from Ian Fowler of Surrey County Council. SCC to provide an update on the report.

Mrs White stated that she is still awaiting the long-promised report from Ian Fowler. Mr Treasure stated that he has already chased Ian Fowler, but will follow up with him ASAP.

Agenda Item 15 - Location: Woking Road pond (behind bus shelter)



Map showing Harry's Meadow, Jacobs Well

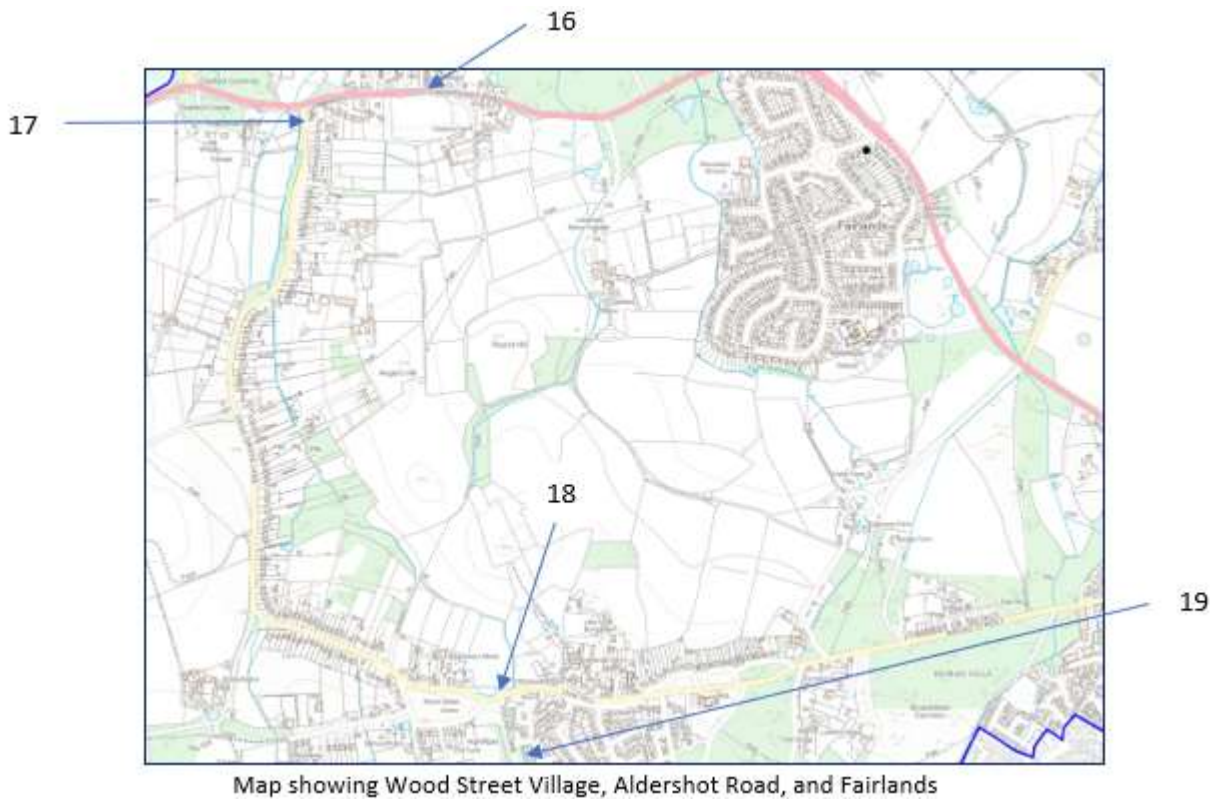
Issue: Debris in the ditch has been reported to Guildford Borough Council (GBC) on a number of occasions. **To receive a progress report from GBC**, to ensure the clearance work is carried out as soon as possible.

2021 Comments/Action: Leigh Edwards (GBC) advised GBC to take responsibility for clearing the ditch. Brent Shirley (GBC) to follow this up. Peter Trevena (WPC) also highlighted that this requires digging out because it's all silted up. Brent Shirley (GBC) will also follow this up with Leigh Edwards (GBC).

2022: Guildford Borough Council have removed one of the two trees that were causing the most significant issues. The other has been marked with paint, assuming this requires additional works? To receive a progress report from GBC as to when the second tree will be dealt with.

Mr B Shirley will chase the removal of the final tree.

Wood Street Village/Broad Street



Agenda Item 16 - Location: Aldershot Road, outside Vivid Homes building site/glasshouses

Issue: Highway flooding during October 2021. Surrey Fire and Rescue were in attendance to pump out water to make it passable to vehicles. To receive a report from Surrey County Council.

2021 Comments/Action: This has not been an issue for the last four years. Jason Lewis (SCC) explained that there was a ditch below a hedge which was culverted, but disappears somewhere through the park homes. Peter Trevena (WPC) states that water now gathers on the greenhouses side of the road – and that there's no ditch evident there now. Jason Lewis (SCC) states that this location is on the jetting list. The amount of silt on the highway was noted, and Helen Barnsley (GBC) agreed to pass this on to Planning Enforcement because vehicles from both the Vivid Homes construction site and John Gunner Waste Management should be going through wheel wash procedures, which are obviously not being adhered to.

SCC's Waste Management Team and the Environment Agency also need to ensure that all licence conditions are being adhered to.

2022: Surrey County Council update: This location has been added to the jetting list.

Mr Trevena highlighted that he asked the landowner of the glasshouses to re-dig the ditch on that side of Aldershot Road some years ago, but no action has been taken. As a result of the ditch silting up the drains on that side of the road have nowhere to drain to.

The other side of the road is where the new Vivid Homes properties have been built.

SCC to inform Worpleston Flood Forum when the jetting will actually take place.

Cllr Messinger highlighted that there seems to be a lack of defined management plans for large developments. Mrs Richardson stated that continual reporting is required for enforcement to have an impact.

Mrs White explained that she had highlighted to Mr Peebles that the drains in this area need linking together, but whilst capital funding is available, both SCC and Worplesdon Parish Council have a lack of manpower.

This item to be kept on the agenda, and to be expanded to cover the wider issues at this location.

Agenda Item 17 - Location: Frog Grove Lane/junction with Aldershot Road



Photograph showing Frog Grove Lane/Aldershot Road flooding – October 2021. The footpath is impassable, and the water in the centre of the highway was too deep for pedestrians or cyclists, and some vehicles. This road is a priority route for the Royal Surrey County Hospital.

Issue: Several issues: (a) ongoing landgrab **To receive a progress report from John Hockley (SCC).** (b) lack of ditch maintenance (c) significant continuing instances of highway flooding at this location – which has worsened since a repair was carried out earlier this year. **To receive a progress report from Patrick Giles.**

2021 Comments/Action: Jason Lewis (SCC) stated that the ditch is silted up and that water is now flooding back from the ditch onto the road. The intention is to block the existing pipe, and put in a new pipe from the end of the driveway for Highview to the ditch on the eastern corner of the junction. The ditch on the bend will be re-dug and graded. The ditch will then be inspected by SCC each year. Peter Trevena (WPC) highlighted that the grips still are not being maintained at this location. Janice Longman (EA) will pass on the comments relating to the ditch to the Environment Agency's Asset Performance Team.

2022: Surrey County Council update: In early February 2022, works commenced to block the existing pipe, and put in a new pipe from the Highview driveway directly to the ditch on the eastern corner of the junction. The ditch on the bend will be re-dug and graded.

To receive updates from:

- **John Hockley, SCC re the land grab issue.**
- **Jason Lewis, SCC regarding the progress of the 2022 works listed immediately above.**
- **Janice Longman, Environment Agency regarding the issue noted in the November 2021 meeting, whereby the main ditch is silted up.**

Mr Shirley (GBC) to liaise with Mr Treasure (SCC) as issues surrounding the drains in this area have been on the Flood Forum's agenda since 2005.

A multi-agency meeting should be arranged to address this issue specifically.

Ms Longman (Environment Agency) stated that the watercourse is not on their maintenance program (despite it being designated a main river at this point) so maintenance falls to riparian owners. Ms Longman agreed to take the issue back to her supervisor to see if their permissive powers can be utilised to desilt the ditch.

Worplesdon Parish Council (on behalf of the Worplesdon Flood Forum) are to follow up with John Hockley regarding the land grab.

Agenda Item 18 - Location: Wood Street Village Pond



Photographs show toilet paper debris from multiple events

Issue: Sewage discharge during 27 August 2020, in response to significant rainfall event. Manhole lifted onto grass verge.

2020 Action: Ms Mason to ask a Network Engineer to investigate further. WPC to provide more details relating to the precise location to Ms Mason.

2021 Comments/Action: Thames Water are sending an engineer out to inspect and report back. There are numerous manhole covers at this location. Peter Trevena (WPC) to fence off any areas when this occurs.

2022: Thames Water to investigate (following 2021 meeting) and advise of findings at February meeting.

Ms Mason (Thames Water) stated that she was chasing this as a priority, with a team to attend onsite imminently, and Ms Mason to report back prior to the next meeting.

Agenda Item 19 - Location: Wood Street Village (in the vicinity of Baird Drive/The Oval)



This October 2021 photo shows a grille after the Head Groundsman from Worplesdon Parish Council removed all of the debris that had blocked the flow of water through it, plus he had also dragged a double mattress out of the flow.



Issue: Flooding caused to residential properties in October 2021.

Comments: Mr Trevena checks these grilles on a weekly basis, and sometime more often in periods of high rainfall. One of these grilles is locked and cannot be properly dug out by Mr Trevena without full access. GBC have previously offered to provide a key, but no key has been forthcoming. To discuss the involvement of Guildford Borough Council and Surrey County Council with regard to the effectiveness of removing silt and arisings from these and other grilles, and to discuss if an alternative approach to reducing significant and problematic fly-tipping could be trialled in this location.

2020 Action: Cllr B McShee and Mr Trevena to meet at this location to discuss how Guildford Borough Council can assist. GBC to confirm that their contractor will continue to remove the detritus removed from the grilles by Mr Trevena.

2021 Comments/Action: Could this location benefit from CCTV? Can local residents be educated about the issues inappropriate rubbish disposal causes? Consider the provision of community skips. Cllr Keith Witham asked what involvement JET have had with portable CCTV. Helen Barnsley (GBC) will find out, and also thought this was a candidate for JAG. Helen had spoken to colleagues about the use of community skips, and her colleagues had not had positive experiences. Mrs Fear (WPC) to highlight GBC's Special Collection Scheme for large items in the next parish newsletter. Peter Trevena thanked the fly tipping collection team at GBC for their prompt clear-ups, but highlighted that the process of getting through to GBC is exceptionally poor.

2022: It has been discussed in the past about providing Mr Trevena (Head Groundsman) with a key to access the grilles, however this has still not been forthcoming to-date. GBC to provide an update.

2022: Helen Barnsley, Guildford Borough Council to provide an update with regard to what degree of involvement JET have had with portable CCTV units, and also whether this project could be a candidate for JAG.

Mr Shirley (Guildford Borough Council - GBC) stated that he had heard nothing back from the JET Team. He will chase Helen Barnsley (GBC) and report back. Mr Shirley stated that he was concerned about the Health and Safety aspects of giving a key to the Head Groundsman from Worplesdon Parish Council – particularly without a risk assessment and training. Mr Treasure (SCC), Mr Shirley (GBC), and Mr Trevena (WPC) to have a site meeting to discuss a solution that doesn't require access to within the grilles.

Mr Shirley (GBC) thanked Mr Trevena for his ongoing work in regularly inspecting and clearing the grilles. He highlighted that Guildford Borough Council have a 93-grille maintenance schedule which means that each grille is visited between 4 and 6 times each year.

Rydes Hill



Map of Liddington Hall Drive and A323 Aldershot Road

Agenda Item 20 - Location: Liddington Hall Drive



Issue: Blocked ditch and enlargement of access road has increased run-off, causing flooding to the front of a property. SCC engineer has been out to assess, and recommended a replacement kerb, but the blocked ditch issue remains, as does the increased hard-standing on the enlarged access road. **To receive an update from SCC regarding progress and potential enforcement for non-conformity.**

2021 Comments/Action: This issue is being dealt with by Paul Mainwaring (SCC). Verbal report to be provided at next flood forum meeting (or via email in the intervening period).

2022: To receive an update from Paul Manwaring, Surrey County Council regarding progress and potential enforcement for non-conformity.

Worplesdon Parish Council are to follow up this issue with Paul Manwaring, but no further contact has been received from the resident.

Littlefield Common



Map: Littlefield Common/Aldershot Road

Agenda Item 21 – Location: Littlefield Cottages, Littlefield Common

Issue: Concerns raised by residents relating to drainage ditch in Merrist Wood long field and also the ditch on common along front of Littlefield Cottages. Vegetation is obstructing the long field ditch, and the commons ditch is now full of rotted leaves and soil after not being maintained for over 20 years. **To receive an update from Merrist Wood College regarding the long field, and from SCC regarding the ditch on the common land.**

2021 Comments/Action: Tim Gamble provided an update via email in advance of the meeting: Works to clear vegetation to access and assess the ditch line starts on 26 November. Merrist Wood will initially clear a 5m strip from the resident's fence into Merrist Wood land so an assessment of the condition of the ditch line can be undertaken, and then plan further works, if required. It was highlighted that these ditches were well overdue necessary maintenance.

Andy Treasure (SCC) to inspect and determine the best way forward, and will update all parties next week. A resident asked if there were any maps showing drainage that could be shared to interested parties. The answer is that drainage systems are very complex. Thames Water can be approached but it is often easier and more expedient to contact Guildford Borough Council to inspect certain plans. Brent Shirley explained that the knowledge base is building, and SCC do have access to DigDat where it specifically relates to ongoing issues.

2022: To receive an update from Merrist Wood College regarding the ditch line of the long field [works to clear vegetation to access and assess the ditch line started on 26 November 2021. Initial clearance of a 5m strip from the resident's fence into Merrist Wood land so an assessment of the condition of the ditch line could be undertaken].

2022: To also receive an update from Andy Treasure, Surrey County Council who was also going to inspect the location and determine the best way forward.

A resident who had tendered his apologies sent his thanks to Merrist Wood for flailing in the vicinity, but noted that the ditch maintenance remains outstanding. Mr Trevena had undertaken a site visit to see what action was being taken here together with the remaining issues. Mr Treasure stated that this hadn't been actioned yet. He asked that this matter be reported to Flooding Enquiries, despite this matter being an ongoing issue over the last twenty years. Worplesdon Parish Council to advise the Littlefield residents to report flooding issues at this location to the flood enquiries inbox (and similarly all Highways issues to the Highways inbox).

Agenda Item 22 – Date of next meeting

Mrs Fear to liaise with Mrs Richardson MP's office to determine a suitable Friday in July 2022 for the next Flood Forum meeting.

The date of the next meeting scheduled for the annual Flood Forum walkabout has been set as 1st July 2022– location of starting point St Mary's Church car park, Perry Hill, Worplesdon .

Walk to commence at 10am, and will encompass from Holly roundabout to Rickford, and return to the church car park.

The next meeting at the parish council offices will be held on Friday 25th November 2022 at 10am.

Mrs Richardson thanked everyone for taking the time to attend – residents and those from the various organisations - and for their continuing support of the flood forum.

Meeting closed 11.25 am.