

# CAPEL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Flooding Committee Meeting held in Capel Village Hall at 18:30hrs on Monday 6 NOVEMBER 2023

**Present:**

**Committee:** Cllr C. Mackonochie (CM) (Chair), Cllr A. Saunders (AS), Cllr T. Sawyer (TS), Peter Derbyshire (PD), David Hulme (DH),

**Flood Wardens:** Ms M. Foster (MF), Mr R. Harris (RH), Mr R. Hollamby (RHo), Mr. E. Mackenzie (EM)

**External Attendees:** Jodi Gore, KCC Highways (JG)

**In Attendance:**

Louise Goldsmith (Clerk), Cllr. S. Rich

Minute No.		Action
	<b>ADMINISTRATION:</b> Fire Exits, Fire Meeting Point, Mobile Phones, Sanitisation measures, intention to record the meeting – Noted.	
260	<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> Peter Waring (EA) Matt Gauntlett (EA), Earl Bourner (KCC), Jo Shippey (SE Water), Mr T. Sanderson (TS), Robert Assirati (RA), Lynn Assirati (LA), Cliff Norrington (CN), Hugh Patterson (HP).	
261	<b>2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b> It was <b>resolved</b> that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18 April 2023 be signed as a true and accurate record.	
262	<b>3. APPOINTMENTS/CHANGES TO COMMITTEE AND WARDENS.</b> None to report.	
263	<b>4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES NOT COVERED IN CURRENT AGENDA:</b> Nothing additional.	
264	<b>5. PRESENTATIONS</b> None to receive.	

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265	<p><b>6. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT/UPDATE</b></p> <p>Peter Waring, Senior Flood Risk Advisor at the Environment Agency sent the following report.</p> <p>All installations for the Flood Resilience Scheme have now been completed. The only outstanding work is for the contractor to complete the final Post Installation Flood Risk Reports (PIFRRs) for approximately 20 properties. These Reports provide formal sign-off that all bespoke works required for the property have been completed. Once these have been completed, the EA will send the Reports to the residents. These are important documents as they should help residents continue to obtain insurance for flood cover.</p> <p>A number of residents participated in the Flood Practise exercise held early in September. This gave residents the opportunity to practise deploying their measures with assistance from the contractors and EA. Approximately half the residents from the scheme participated over the two days and we believe found the event to be beneficial and helpful.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the project to replace the trash screen on the Alder Stream has been delayed until October 2024. We hope to provide a bespoke Flood Warning Service once these works are completed.</p> <p>DH asked for more information about what a bespoke flood warning system would entail. CM offered to obtain more information.</p>	CM
266	<p><b>7. KENT COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT/UPDATE</b></p> <p>CM advised that Max Tant, Flood Risk Manager at KCC has advised that KCC has nothing to report but would be happy to receive any enquiries/concerns to do with surface water. CM suggested directing any enquiries to the Clerk.</p>	
267	<p><b>8. KENT HIGHWAYS REPORT/UPDATE</b></p> <p>Jodi Gore, Drainage Maintenance Team at KCC</p> <p>JG advised that KCC has recently changed their cleansing programmes. The strategic gullies through Capel were cleansed in March 2024 and will now be cleansed annually. Most of the 188 minor assets were cleansed in July with just a few outstanding and moving forward will be cleansed tri-annually. There were 17 enquiries logged for the Capel area between April and October and 13 jobs were raised for general cleansing. Extensive cleansing works took place in May on the downhill stretch on the B2017 between Catts Corner and Crockhurst Street and the Hartlake junction. An engineer has since checked the area and the drainage seems to be working fine. Following Storm Ciaran last week KCC received reports of four blocked gullies in Five Oak Green but none for actual flooding. There is an open enquiry for Church Lane, Five Oak Green where full cleansing and jetting works have been programmed in addition to the cyclical cleansing. Drains in Badsell Road are also due to have some additional jetting once some jammed manhole covers are repaired.</p> <p>CM requested a copy of the programme of cleansing for the major asset and minor assets. JG agreed to send the Clerk a copy of this list. JG advised that the frequency of the cleansing of all major and minor assets is reviewed every three years.</p> <p>CM advised that he had reported the four blocked gullies which are all ongoing issues and in particular the blocked gully outside Brampton Bank. CM advised that works which were due to take place at Catts Corner were cancelled. JG advised that these works have now been completed. CM reported that last weekend water was streaming down both sides of the road at Catts Corner. It was suggested that this drainage</p>	JG

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	<p>issue between Catts Corner and Hartlake Road could be caused by the road levels outside Tumeric Gold which are preventing the water from draining away. RHo suggested that the road levels at the edge of the drive to Goldsmid Hall, where the profile of the junction has changed, are preventing water from going down the correct gulley. CM suggested that photos of the issues are sent to JG to share with the engineers. The Clerk will place information on the website advising parishioners that they can include photos of issues when reporting highway faults online.</p>	<b>RHo</b>
268	<p><b>9. SOUTHERN WATER REPORT</b></p> <p>The Clerk offered to contact John Mealey at Southern Water to obtain a report.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
269	<p><b>10. SOUTH EAST WATER REPORT</b></p> <p>CM advised that South East Water has advised that the water levels at Pembury reservoir is being kept at 97%. A query has been raised as to whether it was agreed that the levels should be kept at 95%. The Clerk will contact South East Water for clarification.</p>	
270	<p><b>11. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Report/Update</b></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
271	<p><b>12. FLOOD WARDENS REPORT/UPDATE</b></p> <p>CM reported that the culvert was checked numerous times by the Flood Wardens during the recent storm but at no point were the levels critical.</p>	
272	<p><b>13. PARISH FLOOD SOURCES/RISK AREAS:</b></p> <p><b>a) Postern:</b> Nothing to note.  <b>b) Culvert - Goldsmid Hall – Tudeley:</b> See item 8.  Rho suggested that the section from the culvert to the railway line needs to be inspected.  <b>c) Alders area including culvert - Orchard Cottage:</b> Nothing to note.  <b>d) Alders Stream Trash Screen B2017:</b> It was noted that the new design has been delayed and that the wardens continue to clear the culvert.  <b>e) Queens Head/Pendore area:</b> Nothing to note.  <b>f) Centre of Five Oak Green:</b> MF advised that the sewer and road drains were overflowing on the 18 September and the 3 November. Tankers came out on the 18 October and were unusually sucking water from the manhole in the pavement. A further tanker came out on the 4 November and pumped water from the usual place in the road. The Clerk was asked to request a report from Southern Water.  <b>g) Attenuation Tank, Forge Close:</b>  TS sent an update with regard to the attenuation tank in Forge Close. The yearly check on the attenuation tank and hydro brake took place in April of this year and is scheduled to take place again in April 2024. The heavy jet clean of the attenuation tank was carried out in March of this year and is scheduled to be done again in September of 2024.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>

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	<p><b>h) Kings Head Cottages:</b> EM reported that a pumping lorry went around the back of Falmouth place in October. The engineers said they were conducting a survey. The Clerk to ask Southern Water about this survey.</p> <p><b>i) B2017 by Capel Grange Lodge:</b> Nothing to note.</p> <p><b>j) Stonecastle:</b> Nothing to note.</p>	
273	<b>14. GENERAL – ROAD GULLIES</b> See item 8.	
274	<p><b>15 NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM</b></p> <p>There was no update.</p>	
275	<p><b>16. OTHER ITEMS</b></p> <p>A discussion was held about the potential impact of 140 houses at Finches Farm and the possible impact of the suggested attenuation tank. It was agreed that further investigation is required.</p>	
276	<b>17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b> 23 April 2024 18:30hrs	

*The meeting closed at 19:01hrs*

Signed: ..... Date: .....