



**Minutes of a meeting of Thatcham Flood Forum Steering Group  
held on Wednesday 3rd August 2016, at 7pm  
in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road**

Present: Iain Dunn (Chairman)  
Brian Barnes (Vice-Chairman)  
Ian Goodwin (local resident) (part meeting)  
Peter Lavarack (local resident)  
Leo Pieri (local resident)  
Brian Woodham (SWMP Funding Group Chairman)

In attendance: Mel Alexander (Thatcham Town Council Officer)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richard Crumly (Thatcham Town Council), Councillor Garth Simpson (West Berkshire Council) and Nick Townsend. An apology for lateness was received from Ian Goodwin.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising from the last meeting**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Surface Water Management Plan for Thatcham**

The following updates on the Surface Water Management Plan for Thatcham were noted:

**Tull Way Scheme** – a Contractor had been appointed. Construction would commence spring 2017. Publicity to be produced by Thatcham Flood Forum.

**Dunstan Park Scheme** – engineering design underway. Construction scheduled to commence spring 2017. Planning application due to be submitted October 2016.

**South East Thatcham Flood Alleviation Scheme** – no major developments. Ecology survey had been carried out. Project Appraisal Report due by the end of 2016 / early 2017.

**Heath Lane** – Project mandate submitted to Environment Agency for inclusion in medium term plan.

**5. West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Sites Consultation**

Details of West Berkshire Council's consultation on its new strategic minerals and waste plan for the district had been circulated. It was agreed that Thatcham Flood Forum would respond to the consultation stating that it would like to know what the impact on flood risk would be should the proposed sites go ahead and invite the Lead Flood Authority (West Berkshire Council) to present details of how arising flood risks could be managed to a future meeting of the Flood Forum.

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**6. SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems)**

A letter to Officers of the Lead Flood Authority (West Berkshire Council) was being drafted, as a follow up to the meeting with West Berkshire Council Planning Officers.

**7. Proposed Developments**

The following updates were noted:

**7.1 Tull Way (Bloor Homes) – 16/00625/OUTMAJ**

no further developments to report.

**7.2 Henwick Park – 15/01949/OUTMAJ**

appeal hearing confirmed for November 2016.

**7.3 Siegecross Farm – 15/00296/OUTMAJ**

appeal hearing confirmed for November 2016.

It was reiterated that the Surface Water Management Plan should be both physically and financially separated from developments. It was agreed to write to Richard Benyon MP regarding the proposed Henwick Park development, ahead of the appeal in November.

**8. Charitable Status**

Iain and Brian W had attended a meeting with Chris Boulton, Greenham Common Trust, to discuss a variety of matters, including: an update on the SWMP and phasing, fundraising update, expectation of when funds would be drawn down and whether the Trust was able to hold funds until 2018, which it confirmed it was. It was agreed that Iain would email Chris to thank him for meeting and to request clarification on the implications of the transition from Find Me A Grant to The Good Exchange.

*Iain Goodwin joined the meeting*

**9. Fundraising**

Iain had attended Scottish & Southern Energy Power Distribution's Resilient Communities celebratory event at the Houses of Parliament, which he reported had been an enjoyable event. A new round of grants would be publicised soon and Brian W agreed to make contact. It was agreed to reimburse Iain £18.70 for his train fare from the Flood Forum's grant from Thatcham Town Council.

Iain reported that the publicity stall at Thatcham Family Fun Day had gone well.

Brian B agreed to pursue the outstanding Waitrose Green Token money with members of staff in store.

**10. Any other business**

There was no other business.

**11. Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 22nd September 2016<sup>1</sup>, commencing at 7pm in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.38pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> Post meeting note: date of next meeting changed to Thursday 13th October 2016