



**Minutes of a meeting of Thatcham Flood Forum Steering Group  
held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016, at 7pm  
in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road**

Present: Iain Dunn (Chairman)  
Brian Barnes (Vice-Chairman)  
Stuart Clark (West Berkshire Council Officer) (part meeting)  
Councillor Richard Crumly (Thatcham Town Council)  
Ian Goodwin (local resident) (part meeting)  
Brendan Murphy (West Berkshire Council Officer) (part meeting)  
Leo Pieri (local resident)  
Nick Townsend (local resident)  
Brian Woodham (SWMP Funding Committee Chairman)

In attendance: Mel Alexander (Thatcham Town Council Officer)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Garth Simpson (West Berkshire Council) and Peter Lavarack. An apology for lateness was received from Ian Goodwin.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 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** – Stuart to provide the Flood Forum with content for an informative flyer for residents. It was agreed to hold a public event in The Broadway in January 2017 to advise residents of the scheme. Mel to circulate Broadway availability. Work on site due to commence late March 2017, subject to weather conditions. It was confirmed that West Berkshire Council had issued a press release.

**Dunstan Park Scheme** – a planning application had been submitted and Stuart offered to attend a meeting of Thatcham Town Council to talk through the scheme. Final detailed designs were due to be completed by December 2016, along with tender documentation. Tender process expected to commence December 2016 / January 2017 and work onsite spring 2017. Flood Forum to produce a flyer for residents.

**South East Thatcham Flood Alleviation Scheme** – ecological and hydrological works had been carried out. Construction expected 2018.

**Heath Lane** – no further updates.

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

**Memorial Field** – technical notes had been submitted to the Environment Agency.

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

Stuart advised that West Berkshire Council would not adopt any SuDS not within a public open space. As Lead Flood Authority, West Berkshire Council would need to be satisfied that SuDS provision within developments could be maintained and documentation demonstrating this must be provided by the developer.

Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, West Berkshire Council is required to maintain a register of flood assets and has the power to designate a flood feature which cannot then be removed, tampered etc. Developers are required to provide maintenance and inspection programmes for flood schemes within developments and large scale developments are expected to provide high public benefit and amenity.

Brian sought clarification of the difference between outline and detailed planning applications, in terms of flood schemes. Stuart advised that detailed planning applications should include a flood asset management plan, this would not be provided during the outline permission stage. West Berkshire Council consider applications at both levels, but different aspects.

**6. Proposed Developments**

The following update was noted:

**Henwick Park – 15/01949/OUTMAJ**

Revised plans had been submitted by the Appellant and comments were invited by 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Brian W to draft a letter to the Inspector regarding the long-term maintenance of SuDS.

*Stuart and Brendan left the meeting.*

**7. Fundraising**

The outstanding Waitrose Green Token money [£398] had now been received, thanks to Brian B for pursuing. Leo to look into gift aid implications on The Good Exchange (formerly Find Me A Grant). The Local Enterprise Partnership had been suggested as a potential funding body, Leo to pursue. Iain to follow up meetings with Sovereign Housing.

The Surface Water Management Plan for Thatcham Funding Committee would be assessing allocation of funds raised at its next meeting.

**8. Any other business**

There was no other business.

**9. Date of next meeting**

Date of next meeting to be confirmed but potentially either 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 or 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.48pm.

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