



**Minutes of a meeting of Thatcham Flood Forum Steering Group  
held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016, at 7.15pm  
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. Apologies for lateness were received from Ian Goodwin.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 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:

Good progress continued to be made.

**Tull Way Scheme** – the contract was in the process of being awarded. Stuart would advise as soon as possible which Contractor had been awarded the work, along with an expected start date.

**Dunstan Park Scheme** – some engineering issues had arisen that needed to be resolved. It was expected that a planning application would be submitted by the end of September 2016 with work commencing spring 2017.

**South East Thatcham Flood Alleviation Scheme** – still early days for this scheme. Early community engagement was needed. Aiming for the Project Appraisal Report to be submitted by the end of 2016.

**Heath Lane** – Project mandate underway. It was noted that there was a second planning application for this site. It was agreed that it was essential that strategic flood plans, as featured in the Surface Water Management Plan for Thatcham, should be kept separate from any flood alleviation schemes included in developers' plans.

**Thatcham Flood Forum**  
**5<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

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

Iain, Brian W and Leo had attended a meeting at West Berkshire Council with Gary Lugg, Head of Planning & Countryside; Gary Rayner, Development Control Manager; and Bryan Lyttle, Planning & Transport Policy Manager, on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 regarding concerns over the long-term ownership and maintenance of SuDS provision. All felt it had been a helpful and supportive meeting and felt that the Flood Forum's concerns were understood, however, the Planning Officers do not have powers to guarantee the long-term maintenance of SuDS. It was agreed to follow up the meeting by writing to Jon Winstanley (cc Nick Carter) seeking feedback on how West Berkshire Council, as lead flood authority, could ensure the long-term maintenance of SuDS in major developments.

Iain to write an article for the National Flood Forum Newsletter.

**6. Proposed Developments**

The following updates were noted:

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

a decision on the planning application was awaited, it was believed that the decision would be made by committee rather than delegated to the Planning Officer.

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

an additional application for outline permission had been submitted (16/01508/OUTMAJ). It was agreed that Thatcham Flood Forum would respond to the new application, Brian W to draft a response. Deadline for comments 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

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

appeal hearing confirmed for November 2016.

*Ian Goodwin joined the meeting*

**7. Charitable Status**

Before making a decision on whether the Flood Forum should register as a charity it was agreed to meet with Greenham Common Trust to discuss whether there would be any issue with the Trust holding on to the money raised for the flood alleviation schemes, for the duration of the scheduled works. Iain, Brian W and Brian B would attend the meeting.

**8. Fundraising**

Plans were underway for the Flood Forum's stall at Thatcham Family Fun Day on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at Henwick Worthy Sports Ground, 11am- 4pm. Thatcham Photographic Club were assisting with production of a banner with logos of organisations that had supported the Flood Forum's fundraising.

A cheque had still not been received from Waitrose Green Token scheme. Leo to pursue in store.

**9. Any other business**

Ian G was carrying out some investigative work on pipe sizes that might affect the Heath Lane proposed development.

**Thatcham Flood Forum**  
**5<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

**10. Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2016, commencing at 7pm in the Thatcham Town Council Chamber.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.04pm.

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