

# LAMBOURN VALLEY FLOOD FORUM MINUTES

28th October 2024

## On-Line Conference

		Action
•	<p><b>Attendees</b></p> <p>Denise Kinsella – Thames Water Howard Woollaston – WBC / Lambourn / Boxford Carolyn Richardson – WBC Emergency Panning Paula Saunderson – Newbury Chris – Lambourn Jonah Maddocks - WBC Martyn Wright - East Garston Nick Voysey - Great Shefford James Potter - Eastbury Jon Winstanley - WBC Paul Bacchus - WBC flood and drainage Jonathan Atkinson Sue Tulloch Linda Bowden – Great Shefford Louisa Freeman – Great Shefford Jill Hoblin – Winterbourne Mark Hayes-Newington - Boxford Oliver Steed – Lambourn Piers Allison – Pang Valley Flood Forum Dan Rampton – Weston Glyn Thomas – Shaw + Donnington Jamie Neale Fiona Brewer Sami Gabriel Andy Taylor – Thames Water</p> <p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Clive Hooker - WBC / Downlands Rachel Carden – Upper Lambourn - Richard Hancock – Environment Agency Emily Merritt – WBC Emergency Panning Vicky Rieunier – Lambourn Nigel Foot</p>	



	<p>available. Letter to go out about work in Newport road in Newbury.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Martyn: Would like to record appreciation to TW, they completed work as promised. This winter will however be a real test. Appreciate their work.</li> <li>• Louise Freeman: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All work from TW has completed in Shefford as far as we know.</li> <li>• Tankers?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Denise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If they are needed, they will be installed where they were before last year, and they will be 24/7</li> <li>• Will always be gaps when tankers go to empty.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Linda Bowden: Where will the tankers be in Shefford? Only place where it works is Station Road..</li> <li>• Andy: will talk to the team where the tankers need to be.</li> <li>• Linda: There will be periods when tanker is away?</li> <li>• Denise: Yes, 24/7 means they will be working around the clock, not that that they will be on site 24/7.</li> <li>• Linda: Several houses have shared pipework, one has down own lining, but still has problems.</li> <li>• Howard: Where does Weston discharge?</li> <li>• Denise: East Shefford</li> <li>• Dan Rampton: Will there be lining in Weston?</li> <li>• Andy: Have been looking at house connections, and building a picture.</li> <li>• Denise: Won't be able to do lining in time for this winter.</li> <li>• Howard: What happened last winter?</li> <li>• Denise: there were tankers 24/7</li> <li>• Dan: manhole by Mill overflowed.</li> <li>• Martyn: Why can't East Shefford sewage works be kept open 24/7 so tankers can discharge there, rather than travelling distances which reduces operating time?</li> <li>• Denise: Depends, on whether the works are already overloaded.</li> <li>• Howard: Work is going on in East Shefford?</li> <li>• Denise will get be back on that.</li> <li>• Linda: What was the effect of extra water on the fish?</li> <li>• Dan: Wild fish stocks are currently good, and the gravel beds were cleaned of silt by the volume of water.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>TW</p> <p>TW</p> <p>TW</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lower Lambourn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jill Hoblin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to Jon’s team for work done by WBC in Winterbourne recently.</li> <li>• Plan to put depth gauges in place.</li> <li>• Flood alleviation scheme did not protect the village last winter.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Paula: Is phase II for Pipe street happening?</li> <li>• Denise: will be after Lambourn completed.</li> <li>• Paula: Resident had toilets overflowing, and has reported it.</li> <li>• Denise: Will look into it.</li> <li>• Paula: At top of Newport Road, have big groundwater issues. Have you done checks?</li> <li>• Andy Taylor: As soon as groundwater goes up we will be out to see the true picture.</li> <li>• Paula: Not helpful that Newbury Town Council, can’t help me.</li> <li>• Glyn Thomas: stretch where spout ditch runs parallel with Lambourn - Breach between the two rivers is causing a problems, and flowing upstream in spout ditch in 20 gardens this spring for 4 months. Are WBC the riparian owners?</li> <li>• Paul Bacchus (WBC): Going to get quotes for rebuilding the banks, will be expensive, with baskets. It is challenging to protect peoples gardens. We are facing an aging network on limited budgets</li> <li>• Glyn: Flooding in gardens is affecting peoples lives, not much time before winter. Will talk to Richard about what is possible from an EA perspective.</li> <li>• Paula: We need to get Defra permissions, because it is an SSSI. In my view it not actually new work to do a rectification.</li> <li>• Paul: Work that is not approved can cause problems downstream.</li> <li>• Paula: Will Shefford scheme send water down more quickly?</li> <li>• Nick: Apparently not.</li> <li>• Paula: Everyone is feeling very nervous.</li> </ul>	<p>TW</p> <p>TW</p> <p>WBC</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><b>General Situation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jon Winstanley: The groundwater level is a meter higher than it was at the same time last year, so people need to prepare in case it could be a repeat of 2014.</li> <li>• Oliver Steed: River is high and fast.</li> <li>• Howard: Who attended today's WBC press conference? – seems no one from LVFF knew about it.</li> <li>• Martyn: If we had known about it we could have taken the message back to residents.</li> <li>• Paula: Was on Radio Berkshire, and my day has been upturned.</li> <li>• Howard: Was anyone at the scrutiny committee?</li> <li>• Paula: Was looking at 2014 section 19 report, was difficult to put points about things that did not seem right.</li> <li>• Jon: comments from Flood Wardens taken into account. It was a consultant's report.</li> <li>• Howard: Reservoirs?</li> <li>• Jon: Takes a long time to secure funding etc for reservoirs.</li> <li>• Paula: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents have been concerned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Want summary of all works done on our 'wet spots' throughout the valley by the various Agencies, and what is scheduled to happen. We need to tell people at risk, if there is nothing going to happen before the flood hits.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jon: My best guess is for trouble is mid December. Can help with what WBC has done, and will contact Richard to find out what the EA have been doing.</li> </ul>	<p>WBC</p> <p>WBC / EA / TW</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><b>New Dashboard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Piers Allison (Deputy chair of Pang Valley Flood Forum): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have cloned Pang Valley Website, for LVFF</li> <li>• Everything is from data feeds from EA and TW, if data wrong their fault not mine.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All: Amazing data set! Much gratitude was expressed for the work involved, and the quality of the output.</li> <li>• Piers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback to Martyn?</li> <li>• We must choose trigger points for rain gauges and river levels.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions that need to be asked: What is spurious data? What specific groundwater gauges do you want to show (need exact link)? What should the trigger levels be for the gauges (from EA)?</li> <li>• See: <a href="https://www.floodalleviation.uk/lambourn/dashboard/">https://www.floodalleviation.uk/lambourn/dashboard/</a></li> <li>• Linda: For Shefford need South Fawley and Northfield Farm.</li> <li>• Martyn: Happy to collate feedback from the Valley. Many thanks for all the time you have taken to do this for us on a voluntary basis.</li> <li>• Piers: Prioritise what you want me to amend.</li> <li>• Martyn: Piers, you and me can sit down together to prioritise. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Howard: Amazing piece of work.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Martyn / Piers
•	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Howard: Could we have a contact list for the Agencies for people in the Valley.</li> <li>• Jon: Might depend on the situation, there are already links to report.</li> <li>• Piers: See the links listed on the Pang Valley Site.</li> <li>• Denise: Want reporting people to the correct route, not individuals.</li> <li>• Paula: People would like an A5 leaflet that could be distributed.</li> <li>• Piers: there is a link on WBC site.</li> <li>• Jon: I am sure we can do something</li> </ul>	WBC
•	<p>Date, Time and location of next meeting.</p> <p>January TBD</p> <p><b><u>By teleconference</u></b></p>	All