

LAMBOURN VALLEY FLOOD FORUM MINUTES

22nd April 2024

On-Line Conference

		Action
•	Attendees Karen Nelson – Thames Water Shelly Hartnoll - Thames Water Howard Woollaston – WBC / Lambourn / Boxford Clive Hooker - WBC / Downlands Rachel Carden – Upper Lambourn Paula Saunderson – Newbury Chris – Lambourn Martyn Wright - East Garston Nick Voysey - Great Shefford Richard Hancock – Environment Agency James Potter - Eastbury Andrew Gorton - Eastbury Jon Winstanley WBC Vicky Rieunier – Lambourn Emily Merritt – WBC Emergency Panning Paul Bacchus WBC flood and drainage Linda Bowden – Great Shefford Oliver Steed – Lambourn Jamie Neal Fiona Louisa Freeman Fiona Brewer Sami Gabriel - WBC Apologies Nigel Foot	
•	Minutes from Previous meeting No comments	

	Howard: Church is the emergency centre Karen: Is it wise to send people to such a site? James: It is the only place other than private barns. Karen: Tankering is probably taking some water away. Karen: - In East Garston - • Have been some blockages. • ATAC has been operating throughout the winter. • Minor spills from manholes. - In Shefford - • Have tankers in the village and at the pump station • Sometimes you will see no tanker due to waiting elsewhere Karen: • Have had good dialogue with new Sewage group. Martyn: • Group has had a constructive dialogue with TW, and focused on which aspects are within TW powers to do something about. • Were problems with ATAC in East Garston, due contractor failures which are being followed up. Vicky: • Thanks for TW help.	TW
• Lower Lambourn	Howard: • Winterbourne has had problems Paula: • Have a number of gardens flooding, and no loos. • Winterbourne and Bagnor have had help, but below Donnington have had a repeat of 2014. • Below Boxford there are 30+ sluices, which when opened	WBC / EA / TW

	have an impact downstream • ARK are catchment leaders • Can't find anything on a management plan for the Lambourn, needs to be like the Hamble. Something is missing at the top level. Sami Gabriel: • Sprout ditch beside A339 and joins the Lambourn, collects a lot of debris. • Narrows just before it goes into the Lambourn • Local groups looking at monitoring. Paula: • Also problems on the W side of the A339 and we will be looking at it with EA and WBC • Lots of river water in peoples gardens and lots of slime, and no help for people especially when elderly, will take this forward through Newbury FF	
•	Valley River Management Plan Howard: • Need a whole valley management plan Paula: • No funding for a big review. • Need to find out who could manage what • Need to identify what are the critical wet spots, and can then go to the relevant bodies to find out what they can do. Nick: • Did the EA not look at a whole river management plan? Richard: • Colleague did put together a register of assets in the Kennet, but did not get to an agreement due to very large number of landowners and asset owners, and liability issues. • There is no organisation with the powers to enforce this,	

	would need a change of government. Jon: • This would be a full time job, we don't have the resources on top of what we already have. Howard: • Want to see a comprehensive long term solution. Paula: • We don't have the right hydrological management below Shefford. • Field run off is greater. • Will support have anything Howard wants to do. • Have a lot of out of bank flooding in lower Lambourn nothing to do with TW • Thanks to TW water tankering help. Shelly: • Cirencester has a level of understanding with landowners to understand how they are managing water. • In Upper Lambourn found huge cascade of water from drone that is not going into the right place. Need to look at groundwater management in whole of the Lambourn catchment. Paula: • Can't have a groundwater project that stops at Shefford. • Can we have a bit more of can do rather than a can't do. Richard: • You can't say water is in the wrong place, it will come out where it wants to. • Eastbury is a fluvial scheme not a groundwater scheme, as is Shefford, and will not prevent groundwater flooding • Very important to understand that nothing can be done to prevent groundwater flooding, important that everyone	
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	across West Berks, and some business applications, will still accept applications • Section 19: Still in the throes of investigation.	
•	Date, Time and location of next meeting. TBD <u>By teleconference</u>	All