

## EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL: FLOODING & LAND DRAINAGE WORKING PARTY

### Notes of meeting of Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 2.00 pm in the Committee Room, Exmouth Town Council

#### **ACTION POINTS IN YELLOW**

#### **PRESENT**

Bruce de Saram	BdS	Exmouth Town & EDDC Councillor, Chair
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council Deputy Clerk
Jayne Johnson	JJ	Kier/TVO, Public Liaison Officer & Planner
Cherry Nicholas	CN	Exmouth Town Councillor
Ben Harman	BH	South West Water
Jeff Trail	JT	DCC Councillor
Jim Faux	JF	Environment Agency
Jade Miller	JM	DCC, Neighbourhood Highways Technician
Richard Elliott	RE	DCC, Neighbourhood Highways Officer
Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town & EDDC Councillor, Mayor
Kate Pearson	KP	Environment Agency, Flood Resilience Team
Tom Buxton-Smith	TBS	EDDC, Engineering Project Manager
Dave Hancock	DH	Environment Agency, Project Manager
Jessica Bishop	JB	DCC, Senior Flood & Coastal Risk Officer
Tim Clatworthy	TC	Exmouth Town Council
Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Town Councillor

#### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Tim Dumper	Exmouth Town Councillor, Vice Chair
Tom Vaughan	DCC
Joy Whipps	Exmouth Town Councillor
Fred Caygill	Exmouth Town Councillor

#### **2. NOTES OF MEETING OF 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

The notes of the previous meeting were discussed to highlight updates on outstanding actions.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING**

3: (6 (4h)) Dawlish: See item 9 of these notes.

3: (7a) Gully cleaning: See item 7 of these notes.

4d: Flood gates: see item 5 of these notes.

4e: Earth mound: See item 5 of these notes.

#### **4. SOUTH-WEST REGIONAL FLOOD & COASTAL COMMITTEE (SWRFCC)**

CJ said that F&LD used to have a DCC representative from SWRFCC in Eileen Wragg when she was a DCC councillor. KP informed members that these were open meetings, and she will request that the secretary of this forum share a link to online information to the officer of this working party, for distribution to F&LD members so that someone can attend. However, on this occasion a hyperlink to their most recent report had been supplied with the agenda for this meeting:

Extracts from the update of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (For Exmouth updates, please see item 10b on p. 35 and item 4.1.4 on pp 61-63 in the link below)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/836358/SWRFCC\\_October\\_2019\\_Papers.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/836358/SWRFCC_October_2019_Papers.pdf)

## 5. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY/EDDC – TIDAL DEFENCE WORKS & RELATED MATTERS (JF, TBS, KP)

- a) A new floodgate is being fitted halfway along Camperdown Terrace.
- b) EDDC will take ultimate responsibility for all floodgates and will close the major floodgates themselves. However it would take their team 6 hours to close all the gates and then another 6 hours to open them later, so it was hoped that residents of the individual Morton Crescent properties would close their own gates (having been forewarned by FloodAlert).
- c) Sailing Club members would need to remove their vehicles and close the gate behind them.
- d) Ducts for eventual pipework have been dug for the Sea Scouts building; this was done as part of the tidal defence works. It has been recommended that the Sea Scouts put in a bid for funding.
- e) The earth mound has been removed. It had been hoped that the material could be re-used to help level out the Imperial Recreation Ground, but it was of too poor quality to be used for this purpose.
- f) It was agreed that a separate sub-meeting take place to determine the exact details of the closing and reopening of the flood gates.

## 6. SOUTH WEST WATER (BH)

- g) BH thought that the suggested meeting with Colony residents, and also the newsletter suggested in our last meeting, would be better scheduled for when there was something significant to report.
- h) SWW are planning to increase water storage tanks at the two pumping stations (Phear Park and the Maer) to help cope with heavy weather conditions.
- i) It is also planned to investigate infiltration into the sewer network, which will involve some CCTV work in Phear Park, from April 2020.

## 7. DCC (RE)

- a) The contractors have finished the salting routes apart from the A376, and any gullies not cleaned to date will now be added to next year's schedule.
- b) There will be a major gully clearing in the new financial year. The smaller gully-clearing machine has not been available for the last 7 months as the use covers such a huge area, but will be in use from February.
- c) RE, JT & RS (Cllr Richard Scott) have a list of Exmouth's blocked drains.
- d) RE has moved to his new role already, and DCC Highways will in future be represented by his successor when they become known.

## 8. ETC COUNCILLORS

Local recent flooding events: (1) Gully at top of Woodland Road. (2) bottom of Moorfield Road. (3) St Andrews Road junction with Imperial Road by Auto Q. (4) Imperial Road Junction with Victoria Road. (5) Manor Gardens: by gardeners' shed near Imperial Road. **TBS to report this to Streetscene.** (6) Tower St corners. RE confirmed that work on the Tower St drainage and footways' reconstruction was expected to start within a few months.

## 9. AOB

- a) The footbridge at Burnside remains unusable having been damaged by a fallen tree from a private property. The matter is now being examined by the insurers; no date for repair has been set.
- b) Sand moving upriver from Dawlish Warren: This has been referred to Martin Davies (Flood & Coastal Risk Management Advisor) of EA. JT (Chair of EEMP) agrees that sand has moved upriver, but has not seen evidence that birdlife and mussels have been adversely affected. The closing date for comments was 10<sup>th</sup> January and the evidence will be discussed at an executive meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February, to which EA was formally invited.
- c) EEMP is to include the River Otter in its remit.

**10. THIS YEAR'S MEETINGS:** All 2pm Tuesdays in the Council Chamber: April 21<sup>st</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting finished at 3.10pm.