

MULTI-AGENCY FLOOD MEETING

30 JANUARY 2024, 7pm, SCOUT HUT, SANDYCROFT

Present: Councillors: Mrs. D. Milner (Chair), Mrs. C. Jones (Vice-Chair), Mr. M. Hughes, Ms. K. Perry (on Teams), Mrs. L. Povey, Mrs. S. Salisbury, Mrs. P. Titley, Mr. D. Wisinger, Clerk: Mrs. C. Hughes, Representatives from: Regional Emergency Planning, Flintshire County Council, Natural Resources Wales and the Community Flood Action Group.

Apologies: Councillors Mr. C. Bowden, Mr. B. Connah, Mrs. P. Connah and Mr. T. Williams.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Councillors Mr. C. Bowden, Mr. B. Connah, Mrs. P. Connah and Mr. T. Williams had sent their apologies. There was no-one in attendance from Welsh Water.

2. Flooding – Improving Community Resilience and Preparedness

The Chair explained that this meeting was to discuss ways in which community resilience and preparedness for flooding could be improved with the help of key agencies such as Flintshire County Council (FCC), Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Welsh Water, the Regional Emergency Planning Service, and other key stakeholders.

The following suggested actions were noted at the meeting:

- Ensure updates are received from FCC and NRW regarding the 2 separate bids each agency has submitted to Welsh Government for funding (decision expected end of Feb/March 2024).
- Prepare a composite map of key assets and the network – serial numbers of grids, pumps, what3words in collaboration with key agencies, e.g. FCC and NRW.
- Identify pinch points – ditches, culverts, outflows, sewers.
- Populate / obtain drainage maps.
- Map ownership and boundaries.
- Ensure real-time monitoring of flood alerts and weather forecasts.
- Conduct audits prior to storm season and at agreed times throughout the year.
- Gather photographic evidence, geographical GIS location, dates and times. Problematic areas – submit evidence to FCC to follow up.
- Work with Streetscene to identify a grid clearing programme in relation to blocked grids.
- Obtain intelligence on:
 - What is monitored by local agencies?
 - What happens automatically?
 - Who takes decisions regarding sluice gates, pumps etc.

- Collate evidence base / set up a central database.
- Obtain further intelligence from agencies e.g. asset spreadsheets / maps / previous surveys that have been conducted (NRW surveys of the area) / FCC Highway Assets mapping of (ongoing piece of work) / open channels / who to report what to.
- Enlist support from NRW in drafting the community flood action plan.
- Develop household community plans and encourage residents to register for flood warnings.
- Gather community resources: National Flood Forum, The Blue Pages, NRW website and leaflets, The Flood Hub, New Ground, Household flood plans, flood defences / products, NRW quarterly newsletter 'Flooding Matters'.
- Prepare advice and guidance for the community on how to manage the aftermath of a flood – applying for any grants they may be eligible for / council tax rebates / help with insurance.
- Identify ways to store, divert, deflect flood waters – FCC and NRW are investigating this.
- Liaise with Seven Sisters regarding slowing down / ceasing production during severe flooding.
- Liaise with Network Rail regarding drainage / their responsibilities.

NRW North Wales Flood Volunteer Network Event

NRW advised that an event is due to take place on Thursday 21st March 2024, 10am-4pm at Conwy Business Centre in Llandudno for community flood volunteers organised by NRW. Key agencies are invited, including Local Authorities, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Police.

The meeting closed and the Chair thanked everyone for their input.

Meeting opened at 7pm and closed at 8.38pm.