

Notes of the Multi Agency Stakeholder Flood Defence Meeting held on  
**Wednesday 6th March 2024 at the Lydney Town Council,  
 Council Chambers, High Street, Lydney**

**PRESENT:** Chair, Carol Harris, Lydney Town Council **(CH)**  
 Rose Christodoulides, Lakeside Resident Rep **(RC)**  
 Cllr Alan Preest, Gloucestershire County Council **(AP)**  
 Cllr Andrew McDermid, Forest of Dean District Council **(AM)**  
 Cllr Chris McFarling, Forest of Dean District Council **(CM)**  
 Lawrence King, Forest of Dean District Council **(LK)**

Michael Greenfield, Town Clerk, (Note Taker) **(MG)**  
 Henry Sleeman, Apprentice, Lydney Town Council (Note Taker) **(HS)**

ITEM		ACTION
<b>1.</b>	<b>WELCOME &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b>	
	Cllr Carol Harris <b>(CH)</b> chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES and APPROVAL OF THE NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b>	
	<p>Mark Topping, Forest of Dean District Council, Leader and councillor for Lydney West &amp; Aylburton            John Thurston, Chairman, Watts of Lydney Group Limited            Joe Baker, Strategic Flood Risk Management Officer, Flood Risk Management (Strategic Infrastructure), Gloucestershire County Council            Andy Bryant, Facilities Administrator, Watts Group of Lydney Group Limited            Martin Quine, Place Manager – Gloucestershire and Herefordshire West Midlands, Environment Agency            Karen Rushworth, Emergency Planning Specialist FoDDC</p> <p><b>Letters to be written to EA &amp; Severn Trent requesting their attendance at future meetings.</b></p>	<b>MG</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>NOTES OF LAST MEETING</b>	
	<p>The Notes of the meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were noted.</p> <p>Subject to the change of sentence on page 2</p> <p>“It was commented that this was due to bad planning from FoDDC and that GCC Officers have been trying to rectify the issues”.</p> <p>To:</p> <p>“It was commented that this was due to planning matters from FoDDC and that GCC Officers have been trying to rectify the issues”.</p> <p><b>CM &amp; AP commented that if there are any outstanding actions they are to be notified. Please note that all actions are listed in the ‘Action’ columns for the representative organisations to complete.</b></p> <p><b>AM requested being copied into emails.</b></p> <p>LK commented that Clive Reynolds would be the FoDDC contact regarding being better informed on planning and attenuation ponds.</p>	<b>All</b>

	<p>The work of Rebecca (Becky) Gundy, Emergency Planning Officer for FoDDC, in relation to the Environment Agency and FODDC Community Engagement - Rapid Response Catchment areas was commented upon. Dates are being planned around the area for community consultation and engagement.</p> <p>There is an online briefing, to be held by Becky on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 4pm-5pm.</p> <p>The notes were received.</p>	
4.	<p><b>ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA</b></p>	
	<p>LTC could not cascade information regarding ponds on the new estate due to not receiving the information from GCC.</p> <p>LTC has been working hard on training their councillors particularly in areas relating to Planning &amp; Highways.</p> <p>Additional sandbags were delivered to Lakeside Avenue.</p> <p>LTC didn't receive any letters for distribution to residents. However, LTC did undertake their own communication with residents regarding flood awareness.</p> <p><b>The FoDDC 'door knocking awareness' in vulnerable areas will be taking place shortly. LK to notify LTC know when this is to take place.</b></p>	LK
5.	<p><b>GCC CO-ORDINATED PROJECT UPDATE</b></p>	
	<p>Joe Baker's report was noted.</p> <p>CM is working on a project putting in 100's of interventions in the River Lyd. This will improve the Lyd's ability to store water in the upper catchment, to enable the storage of large volumes of water. This project is on its way to completion, and will reduce the risk of flooding in Lydney. Work still needs to take place in the middle catchment.</p> <p>Overall the work will reduce flood risk in Lydney and Joe is working across Lydney on flood water capacity.</p> <p>The Gloucestershire Local Resilience Forum Rapid Response Catchment Plan was commented upon. The redacted version will be shared once available. <a href="http://www.glosprepared.co.uk/preparing-your-community/">www.glosprepared.co.uk/preparing-your-community/</a></p> <p>This plan identifies that we need to acknowledge that flooding is getting worse. Worst case scenario Lydney could have flooding strong enough to destroy houses and bridges.</p> <p><b>A redacted copy of this plan will be sent to LTC.</b></p>	CM

	<p>LK commented on up-coming events scheduled for 30th April 2024 to be held at Speech House. The event is to be held with national representatives from flood forums.</p> <p><b>Joe Baker to provide further information to the group.</b></p> <p>AP left the meeting – 2.12pm AP returned to the meeting – 2.14pm</p> <p>It was commented that agencies will need to work together to develop an effective plan for Lydney.</p> <p>MG left the meeting 2.17pm MG returned 2.19pm</p>	<p><b>JB</b></p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>AGENCY REPORTS</b></p>	
	<p>To advise current activities, progress report and respond to specific actions as listed:</p> <p><b><u>A. Environment Agency</u></b></p> <p><b><u>i Lydney Flood Resilience Plan</u></b> <b>The Clerk showed the Lydney Flood Resilience Plan (LRP) Version 11. A copy will be sent to CM</b></p> <p>CM mentioned that the LTC (LRP) and the Gloucestershire Local Resilience Forum Plan (catchment plan) should run in conjunction.</p> <p>LK suggested LTC should make a list of where sandbags are being delivered and send it to him.</p> <p><b><u>ii Flood Meter flow monitoring reports</u></b></p> <p>No information was received regarding the reports.</p> <p>There is only one river level gauge in Lydney at Middle Rough Wood (Middle Forge). There is another river level gauge located in Parkend. The Environment Agency website should provide the data that these gauges produce. <a href="https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk">lydney - Find river, sea, groundwater and rainfall levels - GOV.UK (check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk)</a> or <a href="https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels?q=lydney">https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels?q=lydney</a></p> <p><b><u>B. Severn Trent</u></b></p> <p>No report received.</p> <p><b>A letter should be written to Seven Trent reminding them of their responsibilities to connect and expand their partnership and engagement systems.</b></p>	<p><b>MG</b></p> <p><b>MG</b></p>

	<p><b><u>C. FoDDC</u></b></p> <p>The Chair thanked LK for the useful information he was providing at the meeting regarding building relationships amongst partner agencies.</p> <p><b><u>D. Highways Maintenance Programme</u></b></p> <p>CH commented on a recent meeting with GCC Highways, which was very productive.</p> <p>County Council has allocated £25,000 in their budget for Lydney to assist with flood defence (most of this has been spent on projects already identified). (Please note the funds are held by GCC and not LTC).</p> <p><b>Joe Baker to provide further information to LTC on the funded projects. AP to seek further clarification with FODDC Officers on the funds.</b></p> <p><b>LK updated on road damage being caused by flooding and asked to be updated on flooding &amp; highways issues.</b></p> <p><b><u>E. LTC Data/Report consolidation</u></b></p> <p>MG mentioned the council's newsletter as a way of keeping the public updated, as well as the LTC Facebook and website.</p>	<p><b>JB</b> <b>AP</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
7.	<b>STAKEHOLDER GROUP UPDATES:</b>	
	<p>A. Residents: (RC)</p> <p>Joe was absent and needed for the update.</p> <p>RC mentioned the new roundabout at the bypass (to estate) and commented that there is no evidence of water being channelled where it is supposed to, increasing the risk of water going down into Lakeside. It was understood that a culvert was to be installed, but this will need further investigation.</p> <p><b>RC to send information onto AP &amp; CM regarding her concerns.</b></p> <p><b>LK to check planning has gone through FoDDC to put water into Plumbers Brook (culvert).</b></p> <p><b><u>B. Business Groups</u></b></p> <p>Andy Bryant's, Facilities Administrator, Watts Group of Lydney Group Limited, comments were noted.</p> <p>HS left the meeting at 2.58pm.</p>	<p><b>CM: Action</b> <b>AP CM</b></p> <p><b>LK</b></p>

	<p>It was commented that various parties are involved in the meeting and they will need to fulfil their part.</p> <p>HS returned at 3pm.</p> <p>It was commented that there are concerns regarding the Severn Trent water network, which may require updating. It was also commented that FoDDC has responsibility for some of the water network.</p> <p><b>Severn Trent to be contacted regarding their non-attendance at the Flood Meetings.</b></p> <p>It was commented by CM that nothing can be done with Mead Lane, at the moment.</p> <p><b><u>C. Environmental</u></b> Clerk noted there was nothing submitted by the EA.</p> <p><b><u>D. Other Parties Issues</u></b></p> <p>AM mentioned Zane’s Law asked whether work should be updated on historic landfills within Lydney. <b>CM will take up this point as part of his role for flooding and decontamination on flooding.</b></p> <p>MG mentioned tests are undertaken on land belonging to the Trusts.</p>	<p><b>MG</b></p> <p><b>CM</b></p>
8.	<b>CORRESPONDENCE AND A.O.B</b>	
	None	
9.	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b>	
	<p>CH thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions.</p> <p><b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b> <b>Time: 1.30pm</b> <b>Lydney Town Council, Council Chambers</b></p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
	<b>Meeting ended 3.21pm</b>	