

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HUGHENDEN VALLEY DIG

Elwood, Valley Road, Hughenden Valley, High Wycombe Bucks HP14 4LG

Monday 17th June 2019 at 7.30pm

Attendees:

David & Debbie White (DW/DAW)
Paul & Carolyn Woodford (PW/CW)
Matt Hopkins (MH)
Iain & Deborah Lemon (IL/DL)
Simon Cook (SC)
Sarah Mustapha (SM)
Angus Idle (AI)
John Gladwin (Chiltern Society) (JG)

Apologies: Sam and Rebecca Morrison and David Carroll

Agenda:

1. Committee's look back at 2018/2019
2. Financial Review
3. Election of Committee
4. Looking forward
5. AOB

		Action
1.0	Committee's look back at 2018/2019	
	DW explained that Thames Water have published an update document on the Little Marlow Drainage Strategy and this has been added to the Documents page of HVDIG's website by PW. They have now completed Stage 2, "Risk Assessment", and Stage 3, "Options Appraisal". HVDIG raised a concern with Thames Water that no mention was made in this document of the temporary mobile treatment units held at Little Marlow in case of further sewage flooding in the Valley. However, we are assured that this document is in addition to the Stage 1 strategy document and is not intended to replace it. Thames Water have confirmed that they will continue to monitor levels of groundwater and flows in the catchment area and at sewage pumping stations that will trigger alarms based on the defined trigger levels. They also confirmed that there are two mobile treatment works at the Little Marlow depot, ready to be deployed	

should sewer flooding events like 2014 happen again and that the help line and reference quoted on the Advice page of HVDIG's website is still operational.

DW outlined that work carried out by landscape contractors in May 2019 outside Broomhedge in Boss Lane has resulted in the culverting of a section of the Hughenden Stream and a significant reduction in its flow capacity there. In addition, the pipework put in place for Thames Water to use for overpumping has been altered and potentially compromised. HVDIG believes that the Riparian responsibilities for this section of the Hughenden Stream lie with Bucks County Council (BCC) and under BCC's Land Drainage Enforcement Policy Document HVDIG have formally notified BCC, under Section 6 of this document that there is an impediment to an ordinary water course as the result of this work and requested that a member of BCC Flood Management Team visit the site, assess the situation and implement necessary remedial work. HVDIG have also asked BCC for more information on their process for granting permission for public/businesses to undertake work on BCC land/assets where BCC has Riparian responsibility and precedent/policy implications that this work raises.

PW/DL gave an update on the situation with the road drains in Valley Road. BCC has confirmed that there were no scheme design and survey drawings/plans showing specified design depth, falls and calculations for the work carried out in 2018. BCC intends to monitor the situation. So far there have been no "events" and the system is coping. It was agreed that HVDIG would ask BCC to outline their annual maintenance plan for the drains and gulleys under Valley Road. IL pointed out that there were various "tree debris" in the ditch by the Affinity Water Pumping Station where the Hughenden Stream emerges and it was agreed that where HVDIG members see such blockages they will take photographs and send them to DW to report to BCC as part of their ongoing Riparian responsibilities.

JG gave an update on various conservation work on the chalk streams in the area.

Finally, DW thanked all HVDIG members for their work during the year and PW/CW for hosting the AGM meeting.

All/DW

	<p>Officer until BCC Flood Management Team decide there is action needed and notify the person in BCC with Riparian responsibility. If BCC Flood Management Team decide no action is warranted there is no record on BCC's Monitoring System of the complaint or the reasons behind the judgement or awareness of the complaint by BCC's Monitoring Officer or Legal Department. This casts in doubt the "Chinese Wall" process between the enforcement and ownership of Riparian responsibilities in BCC and HVDIG believe that the process shown in Appendix 4 of BCC's Land Drainage Enforcement Policy Document should be amended with the Monitoring Officer, Sarah Asmead and Linda Forsythe informed when a complaint is received by the BCC Flood Management Team. DW will pursue this with BCC.</p>	DW
4.0	AOB	
	None.	