

October/ Action Plan/Update Beckford Village Flood Group

Parish Council Concerns

Our usual proactive ACTION driven anti-flooding meeting was unfortunately taken up with a discussion relating to the group's very reasonable concerns about the unprofessional and unofficial actions of individual members of the Parish Council. We have been victims of derogatory remarks and divisive use of language including a mail which has been sent to a unconnected parishioner. All of which is de-motivating and demoralizing to the hard working members of the flood team and in the bigger picture scheme, this sort of whispering campaign could be seen as damaging to our reputation and therefore could affect our position of influence with the authorities. Thus affecting our efforts to protect individual house holders and drive future flood alleviation projects.

We concede that the official council as a whole as been helpful and supportive to our efforts particularly over the Defra Grant and Roger the chairman has actually said on record that he will be playing an active roll with regards the Culvert 3 proposal. So it's very sad and disappointing that one councillor's personal feelings and connections are being used in a vendetta against the group & that he could be seen to be influencing the general public. With the office of councillor come responsibility and a code of conduct that must be adhered to when dealing with the business of the parish.

The group concluded that we had no choice but to seek advice from Ian Marshall the Parish Council Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal support services at Wychavon County Council. Bill and Josephine have scheduled a meeting and will take his advice on the steps forward. If necessary the group are willing to report the matter to the Parish council Standards Board and have been gathering evidence to support our case.

Focus 2010

The second half of our meeting was much more positive and we are committed to concentrate the following issues 2010.

- A46 Culvert near the Beckford Inn & the general drainage issues on the cross roads
- General A46 drainage issues
- A46 Little Beckford Culvert
- Culvert 3
- Little Beckford WCC Drainage Plan
- Little Beckford Black Smith's Lane drainage
- Flood Plain Land must not be built on
- Grafton Road
- Watercourses maintenance and riparian duties
- Proposal to make Washbourne and Carrant Main river
- Lobby for a hydrologist report on the village as a whole (to be used as the action plan to alleviate flooding over the next 25 years)
- Flood warden support

Actions

- Write to other Parish Councils – Tina
- Find out the dates of other PC meeting – Josephine
- Attend other PC meetings – Bill
- Complain to Wychavon that no PC riparian update went out – JD
- Drainage Questions Black Smith's Lane -Julia and Anton
- Update FWAG - Jo