



Wyre Making Space for Water Meeting

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 18 February 2021
via Microsoft Teams.

Present:

Carl Green (CG)	Wyre Council (WC) – Chair
Paul Long (PL)	Wyre Council
Lydia Cowell (LC)	Environment Agency (EA)
Graeme Kelly (GK)	Environment Agency
Becky Wild (BW)	Environment Agency
Alistair Graham (AG)	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Mark O'Donnell (MD)	Lancashire County Council (Highways)
Phil Wylie (PW)	United Utilities (UU)
Paul Davenport (PD)	United Utilities

Apologies:

Christine Hamilton	Environment Agency
Paul Bond	Environment Agency
Nicola Beale	Environment Agency
Rachel Crompton	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Nigel Morris	Lancashire County Council (Flood Risk Management)
Tom Myerscough (TM)	Wyre Rivers Trust (WRT)
Katie Duffy	United Utilities

1. Introductions:

PL welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies:

Apologies were noted as above.

3. Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of 26 November 2020 were agreed.

Matters arising:

- PW reported that he did not have a current update on the investigation works being undertaken by UU in response to reports of flooding on Sunningdale Place, Inskip. He proposed to update the Flood Forum in March.

Action - PW

- PW reported that work on the drainage on Church Road / Marsh Road, Thornton has been put on hold while UU look at how best to proceed. He noted that a significant length of the surface water drainage system would need to be dug up and relayed to create a positive fall, and this would inevitably cause considerable disruption to local residents. He considered that this would need careful consideration and did not foresee that works would be undertaken in the next couple of years. He proposed to update Thornton FLAG and the Flood Forum in March.

Action - PW

- PW reported that he was not aware of progress with the foul drainage on Hardhorn Road, Linderbeck Close and Snowy Dell, Poulton but would chase this up and report back to the March Flood Forum with any updates.

Action - PW

- PW reported that no action has yet been taken on redesignating the watercourse/sewer on Holmefield Close, Thornton – UU are looking at whether this should be designated as watercourse and not part of the UU system. He noted that that this is likely to be a long-term process and that UU will be contacting residents once a decision has been made

- PL reported that he and CG have investigated the flooding issues on Lancaster Road and Raikes Road in Great Ecclestone. He added that an attempt to CCTV the pipe from Raikes Road had been unsuccessful due to the holding water in the pipe – this would be repeated once the weather improves and the water level in the pipe drops. CG has met with the owners of the watercourses on the lane leading to the UU pumping station and some works have now been undertaken to clear these.

Action - WBC

PW confirmed that UU had undertaken a CCTV inspection of their outfall pipe from the pumping station – he would locate a copy of the video and forward this for colleagues to view.

Action - PW

- MD reported that the watercourse to the north of Kiln Lane, Hambleton, and the culvert connecting the watercourse to the highway gullies on Kiln Lane have both been cleared. Although both the watercourse and the culvert are privately owned, and the responsibility of the riparian owner, the works were completed by contractors working for LCC during the Christmas and New Year break and the system is running well. The landowner has been informed of his responsibilities and will be expected to maintain the system in future.

No flooding was noted during the recent heavy rainfall of 20 January.

PW asked that MO provide a copy of the works undertaken for UU records. MO to provide details.

Action - MO

MO noted that a significant number of the issues that are being looked at by the Group are the responsibility of riparian owners, and the councils and other agencies have been picking up issues which were not really theirs to resolve.

CG suggested that the council should publish riparian responsibilities on publications and in parish magazines to ensure that the message is getting to riparian owners.

- MO informed the Group that has made a bid for an additional £500k funding to undertake works in Fylde and Wyre to resolve flooding and structural issues from Storm Ciara.
- AG reported that a representative from LCC has been looking into the flooding issue on St. Heliers Place, Barton – he had no further details but would find out and report back to the Group.

Action - AG

- PL noted that no action had yet been taken on contacting the owner of the land behind Sefton Ave, Poulton to look at possible actions to prevent run-off. This is an issue from some 20 years ago which had been resolved by the construction of a bund behind the properties, but reoccurred in 2020 following redevelopment of the land. PL confirmed that the development plans for the land CG did not confirm whether or not the housing developer owned the area of land behind Sefton Ave – this would need to be checked.

Action - WC / LCC to arrange site meeting

4. Issues from Flood Forum and FLAGS:

PL reported that he had recently held Teams meetings with the FLAGS from Hambleton/ Stalmine, Thornton, Preesall, Churchtown, St.Michaels, Great Eccleston and Pilling. Issues raised are detailed in the Appendices and have been added to the Issues and Action log.

Hambleton and Stalmine:

- FLAG are happy with work that has been recently completed to the drainage system off Kiln Lane.
- Flooding is being experienced by Ryecroft Hall including Sandy Lane, Stoney Lane and Pauls Lane. Can local drainage culvert from the former Police Station on Broadpool Lane be checked for blockage or damage? MO agreed to look into having culvert surveyed,

Action - MO

- The FLAG asked whether the culverted watercourse along the northern boundary of Queensland could be opened up again – this was culverted without consent some time ago and make be contributing to flooding to the properties to the north.

Action - WC / LCC

- The FLAG has asked whether changing the kerbing on the highway on Carr Lane, close to the Coppins, with Beany blocks would help resolve flooding issues here. MO replied that the issue here was not in taking surface water off the highway, but where it discharged to. He considered that further work was required to clear the watercourses behind the properties on the west side of the road.
- The FLAG asked United Utilities to inspect the surface water sewer where it discharged into the watercourse on Marsh Lane, close to the junction with Sandy Lane. The FLAG is concerned that the discharge is blocked.

Action - UU

- The FLAG asked if LCC would inspect the condition of the highway gullies on Church Lane / Marsh Lane to the junction with Green Meadow Lane / Shard Lane as there seemed to be a lot of surface water during heavy rainfall events.

Action - MO

- The FLAG asked for an update on when flow meters would be installed in the sewer systems Over Wyre as had been suggested by UU. PW replied that the opportunity to obtain finance for this scheme had been missed and the works would not be done. He added that he was currently looking at an alternate scheme looking at the catchment for Fleetwood Treatment Works is being looked into and this could include installation meters in Hambleton – any such installation would likely be at least 12 months away.
- Stalmine FLAG asked that LCC look at the junction of Highgate Lane and Staynall Lane. MO replied that he had been made aware of this and would investigate.

Action - MO

Thornton:

- PL reported that the watercourses on Hawley Gardens have now been cleared by the maintenance company.
- MO confirmed that works to repair the highway gully under the junction of Bourne Road and Fleetwood Road North (originally planned for 21 January) have been delayed but are still expected to be completed within 20/21 financial year.
- Culvert under Fleetwood Road North from field at the junction of Bourne Road appears to be blocked. Can LCC look to clear this?

Action - MO

- PL confirmed that he has arranged a site visit for 1 March with the FLAG and local residents to check reported a blockage of Royles Brook on Marsh Farm, and a structure in Hillylaid Pool close to the junction with Horse Bridge Dyke, which in is poor condition. EA, WRT and LCC to be invited to attend.

Action - WBC / EA / WRT / LCC

- MO gave an update on works to Underbank Bank, Thornton. He said that ditching works had been completed either side of the road. Several properties have had their drainage connected to the system and the system is running well. A blockage to the watercourse downstream has also been cleared.
- Stanah Road / River Road – final lengths of culverts and watercourses to be checked / cleared to ensure that local drainage is running clear. MO confirmed that open watercourse in Stanah Gardens was cleared between Christmas and New year; he thought that the main remaining issue lies within the ENWL culvert and would contact ENWL to progress clearance works.
- The FLAG asked what the current status of Stanah pumping station is. GK replied that the EA was still awaiting confirming of the ownership transfer from Wyre council. It was expected to be complete by 31 March but this has yet to be confirmed. The EA will be undertaking a study next year on how the station will operate in future; until then the EA expect the station to operate similarly to how it currently does.
- GK confirmed that the installation of cameras at Stanah pumping station is not expected before the end of May 2021.
- MO confirmed that recent works to clear the watercourse on White Carr Lane had removed approximately 60 tonne of silt.

Preesall:

- MO has arranged for a topographical survey of Preesall Hill to be undertaken by LCC to allow TM to draw up a plan to reduce flooding to Sunnyside Terrace. He added that money has been put aside to allow for an additional pipe to be laid to divert some of the water off the hill into the watercourse north of Sandy Lane – this would be dependent on the proposed plan drawn up by TM.

PL noted that the FLAG has again raised the issue of water and sand running off the hill and down Cart Gate. MO confirmed that he had not yet spoken to the land owner on this matter, but requested that LCC (Flood Risk Management) raise this issue with the landowner. AG replied that the issue was not related to a watercourse and that LCC (Highways) are the proper authority to deal with this matter. AG said that a letter had been issued to a landowner in Lancaster for similar incident; he would forward a copy to MO to allow a response to be sent.

Action - AG

- MO confirmed that an order has been raised to inspect the culvert under Burned House Lane, but works have not yet started.
- PL raised concerns from the FLAG that the watercourse on Green Lane did not appear to be running well. Concerns have been raised that the flow is being restricted by flows to the south of Green Lane (from St.Aidans school) which appear to be the dominant flow. It has been suggested that the east and west side of the watercourse be joined upstream of the existing crossing to improve flow from Cart Gate.

Action - EA / LCC / WC to investigate

- The FLAG noted that UU were undertaken works on Coniston Ave and asked whether anything was known about the nature of these works. PW thought this was lining work being done by a contractor on behalf of UU to prevent possible collapse of the drainage system – it was not thought to be in response to a current collapse or breakage.
- The FLAG asked that the long proposed walk through of the surface water system between Meadow Ave and Wheelfoot watercourse be undertaken. Both GK and AG confirmed that they would make themselves available for a future walkthrough – PL to arrange with FLAG.

Action - PL

Churchtown:

- The FLAG asked that the MSfW look at the possibility of flooding woodland north of the A586 (opposite Ainspool Lane) to reduce flows under the road and into the Ainspool. They consider that this would reduce the risk of flooding of Ainspool Lane and properties nearby. The Group agreed to investigate the possibility of doing so and report back to the FLAG.

Action - ALL

- The FLAG asked that the sandbag bins close to the Memorial Hall be located – this was agreed – WC to agree new locations with the FLAG.

Action - WC / FLAG

- The FLAG asked whether a level marker could be installed in the river at the outfall from Ainspool to the River Wyre so that it could be read from a drone during a flood incident. GK agreed to look into the possibility of providing this.

Action - EA

St.Michaels:

- The FLAG sought updates to the issues in the Issues and Actions log. It was noted that there had been some flooding to properties during the heavy rainfall in January and details were forwarded to be included in Council records and for any official report into the incident.
- Updates were requested for the following issues
 - Issue 17/16 - Does the EA have an updated work programme?
 - Issue 18/08 - Can EA provide an update of progress?
 - Issue 18/26 - Can EA provide an update?
 - Issue 18/32 - Can EA provide update?
 - Issue 18/41 - Can EA provide an update of progress?
 - Issue 18/42 - Can EA provide an update of progress?
 - Issue 18/43 - Can EA provide an update of progress?
 - Issue 18/45 - Can EA provide an update of progress?
 - Issue 18/57 – EA to provide an update on the Project and a copy of the report
 - Issue 19/20 – FLAG asked that this remain on the Issues and Actions Log although it is for UU to resolve. Can UU provide an update?
 - Issue 20/03 - FLAG has concerns about continued flooding of highway – danger to traffic on A586.
 - Issue 20/19 – Can LCC provide an update?
 - Issue 20/20 – Can UU /EA provide update?
 - Issue 20/21 – EA to provide an update
 - Issue 20/25 – Can EA provide update?
 - Flooding on 20/21 January – concerns raised about properties on Moss Side Lane being cut off during heavy rainfall – new issue 21/07
 - Rawcliffe Road embankment - FLAG expressed concern about the condition of the sandbags - when is the work expected to be undertaken?
 - New issue – Flooding to Allotment Lane – flooding of highway and sewage flooding to garden.

Action - ALL

- Responses to issues raised have been included in the revised Issues & Actions log (dated 24 Feb 2021)

Great Ecclestone:

- The FLAG asked that the highway drainage on Butts Lane be checked due to flooding of the highway close to the junction with the A586.

Action - LCC

- The FLAG were particularly concerned about repeated flooding to Moss Side Lane where flooding of the highway is preventing residents accessing their properties. Flooding in January prevented access/egress and very nearly entered residential properties. A meeting has taken place with residents but the flooding issue requires further work to resolve.

Action - ALL

- Whites Bridge - concern about flooding of A586 and the potential for a vehicle accident when hitting floodwater, particularly at night. The FLAG asked that LCC consider improved signage to warn drivers in advance of floodwater.

Action - LCC

- Flooding to Lancaster Road and Raikes Road - regular flooding at junction with A586. While works have been undertaken to improve the drainage on the north side of the A586, further works, including to the pipe that outfalls to the need undertaking.

Action – WBC / UU

Pilling:

- The FLAG raised the issue of flooding on Moss House Lane which they attributed to the new development off Garstang Road. PL has confirmed that a revised drainage strategy has been received from the Developer which kept surface water within the perimeter of the site and did not discharge into Moss House Lane. The FLAG asked that LCC (Highways) consider resurfacing of Moss House Lane which was damaged by the flooding last year.

Action - LCC

- The FLAG raised a number of issues with highway drainage throughout the village – these have been raised previously with LCC and detailed in the Issues & Actions Log; the FLAG are looking to LCC to confirm whether or not these have been addressed – see Issues & Actions Log

Action - LCC

Out Rawcliffe:

While no meeting was held with the FLAG, an email was received which highlights issues raised locally. This is included in the Appendix.

5. Issues and action update:

The updated Issues & Actions list is attached as Appendix 1

6. Flooding January 2021 (Storm Christoph):

- Heavy rainfall over the period 19 - 21 January resulted in several areas of Wyre suffering flooding. While several areas in the urban area (notably around Stanah Road) suffered flooding to the highway, the main affected areas were along the A586 corridor between Churchtown and Great Ecclestone, and on Sunnyside Terrace, Preesall.
- AG reported that he has received a complaint from a local councillor about flooding around Northumberland Ave., Thornton-Cleveleys, asking that something be done to resolve repeated flooding of the highway in this area. PL noted that MO had reported before Christmas that a blockage in the watercourse north of Northumberland had been found and cleared by LCC.
- Moss Side Lane, Great Ecclestone was cut off by flooding of the highway. Several properties were flooded, although no reports of any internal flooding of residential properties.

7. Any other business:

- MD reiterated his previous report, that LCC (Highways) has received £250,000 funding to deal with issues from Storm Ciara in February 2020.
- CG noted that Wyre Council has received a Freedom of Information request for information on the impacts of flooding from Nov 2019 to March 2020. He suggested that Wyre make a joint response from the Making Space for Water Group. PL to draft a response for consideration

Action - PL

- CG informed the Group that Wyre Council would be investing in the Wyre Natural Flood Management Project <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/wyre-nfm-project/>. AG confirmed that LCC are aware of the scheme and will be looking at whether or not to support the scheme.
- CG informed the Group that a joint bid by Lancashire councils has been made for funding for a number of initiatives for natural flood management.

8. Next meeting:

27 May 2021, 10am start – Details to follow.

Appendix

Issues raised by FLAGS

Hambleton & Stalmine FLAGS (met 15 Feb)

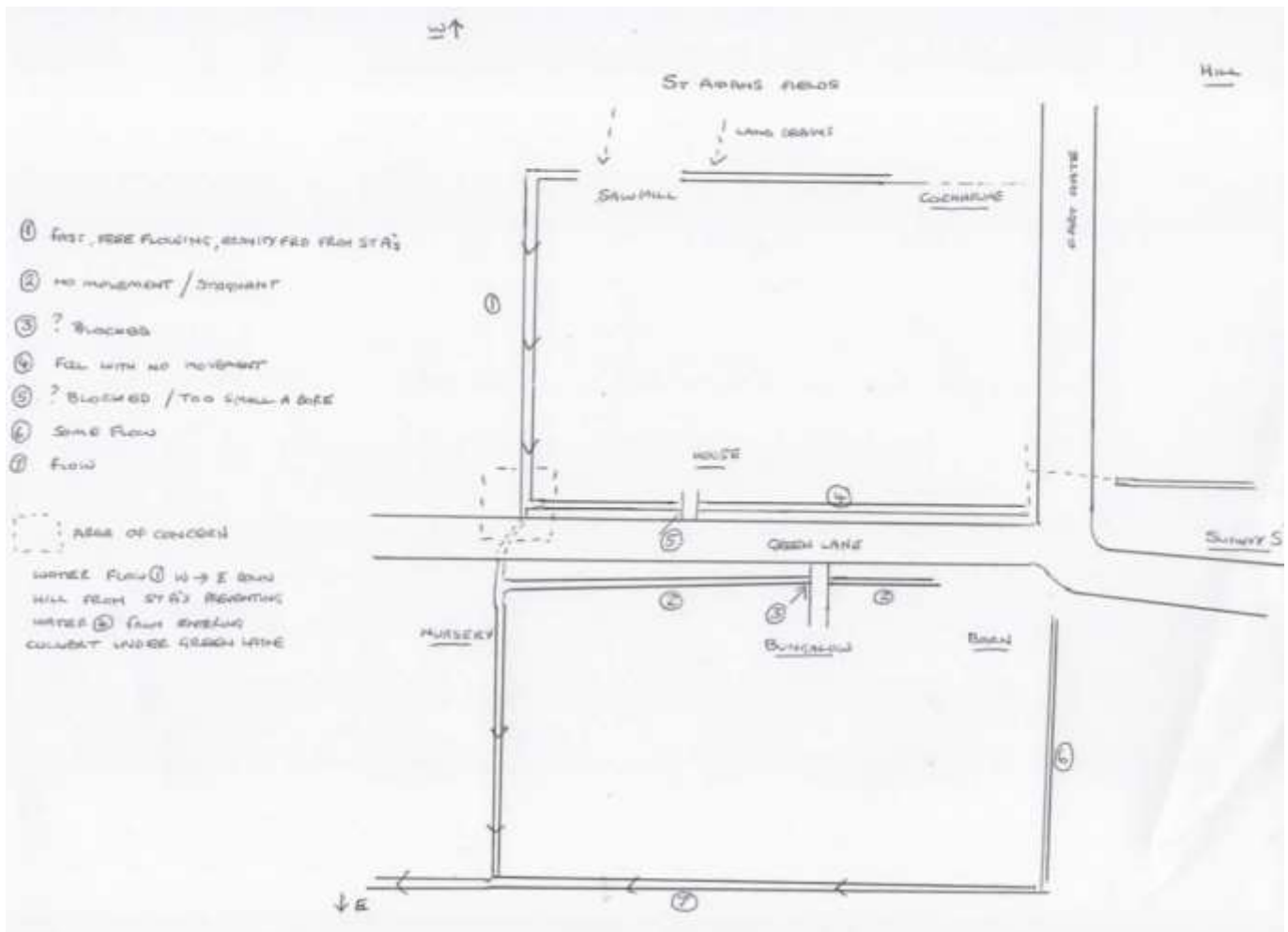
- a) Four main areas of flooding concern remain –
Carr Lane (by Queensland),
Carr Lane (by paper shop),
Sandy Lane / Marsh Lane
and Sherbourne Road/Kiln Lane.
Updates to be provided on works to resolve flooding. **ALL**
- b) Queensland country park has culverted watercourse between them and The Coppins - could this be opened up again to reduce risk of flooding? **ALL**
- c) Kiln Lane – private culvert and watercourse north of Kiln Lane have now been cleared – FMAs to monitor highway during future events to determine whether the flooding issue on Kiln Lane and Sherbourne Road has been resolved. **UU / LCC / WBC**
- d) Can culvert on Broadpool Lane from former Police station to Market Street be inspected – flooding is being experienced on Sandy Lane, Pauls Lane and outside Ryecroft Hall? **LCC**
- e) Update on when UU will install flow meters into foul system to establish flows and locate where problems are? **UU**
- f) Highway flooding at junction of Highgate Lane and Staynall Lane – repeated flooding from overflowing watercourse. Road is impassable when flooded.
- g) Highway flooding on Wardleys Lane, north of New Road
- h) Can UU provide details of the layout of the foul pumping station on Kiln Lane – FLAG would like to know how the station discharges to the river at Wardleys Creek and whether or not this is contributing to flooding on Kin Lane when the outfall is tidally locked. **UU**
- i) Can UU check 9” surface water sewer on Marsh Lane where it discharges to watercourse for a potential blockage? **UU**

Thornton FLAG (met 15 Feb)

- a) Hornby Corner - blocked gullies (roots); when are LCC planning to clean out roots? Can gullies be cleaned and the pipes under the road be checked for damage? **LCC**
- b) A585 Amounderness Way - can an update on the clearance of culverts by Highways England be provided? **WBC**
- c) Marsh Road / Church Road sewers - can UU provide an update on drainage works? **UU**
- d) Fleetwood Road North - can Highways provide update as to when repairs to broken gullies at junction with Bourne Road will be undertaken? **LCC**
- e) Can EA provide an update on the proposed installation of cameras on Royles Brook (close to Sandyforth Arms) and at Stanah PS help monitor main river levels? **EA**
- f) Site visit to be arranged to inspect New Lane watercourses (east of A585) following works to roadside vegetation by WBC. **WBC**
- g) Site visit to be arranged for 1 March to check Royles Brook on Marsh Farm and the structure in Hillylaid Pool close to the junction with Horse Bridge Dyke. **WBC**

Preesall FLAG (met 15 Feb)

- a) Continued flow of water and sand on Cart Gate from works at top of hill - highway gullies are filling with sand. Can LCC take action to prevent further instances? **LCC**
- b) Has culvert under Green Lane been cleared? Concerns that watercourse is running slowly and be prevented from freely slowing due to discharge further down Green Lane (from St.Aidans school). **LCC**

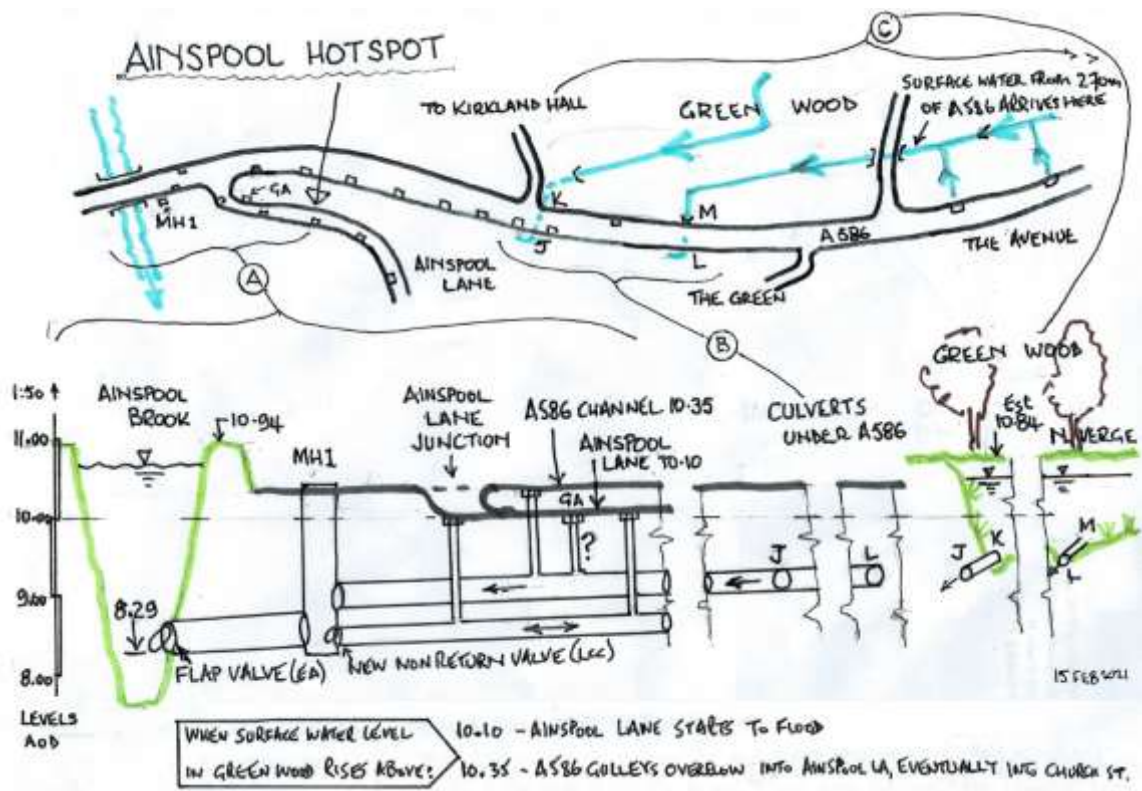


- c) Have works to inspect culvert under A588 Burned House Lane been undertaken? **LCC**
- d) Inspection of watercourses from Meadow Ave to Wheelfoot watercourse to be organised. **WBC**
- e) Street light 106 to be repaired. **LCC**
- f) UU are doing works on Coniston Ave. Can they confirm what these works are? **UU**

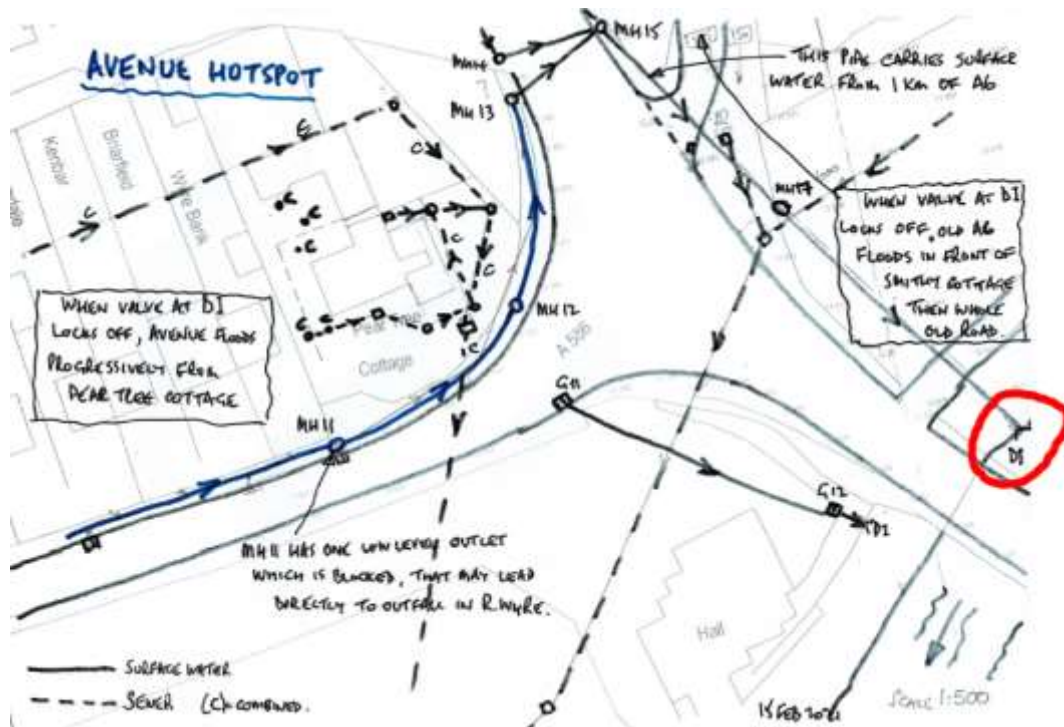
Churchtown (met 16 Feb)

Flooding on Wednesday 20 January to Ainspool Lane.

- a) Can WBC reposition sandbag bins at Memorial Hall – locations to be marked out by FLAG? **WBC**
- b) Can MSfW look at flooding woodland north of A586 opposite Ainspool Lane to reduce flows under the road? **ALL**



c) Can the outfall from the surface water into the River Wyre upstream of Kirkland Bridge be modified to improve discharge rate? **LCC**



d) FLAG are looking to purchase a drone to help with inspections during a flooding event. Can EA install a tidal gauge close to the outfall of the Ainspool so that it can be read from drone? **EA**

St. Michaels FLAG (met 16 Feb)

- a) Issue 17/16 - Does the EA have an updated work programme? **EA**
- b) Issue 18/08 - Can EA provide an update of progress? **EA**
- c) Issue 18/26 - Can EA provide an update? **EA**
- d) Issue 18/32 - Can EA provide update? **EA**
- e) Issue 18/41 - Can EA provide an update of progress? **EA**
- f) Issue 18/42 - Can EA provide an update of progress? **EA**
- g) Issue 18/43 - Can EA provide an update of progress? **EA**
- h) Issue 18/45 - Can EA provide an update of progress? **EA**
- i) Issue 18/57 – EA to provide an update on the Project and a copy of the report. **EA**
- j) Issue 19/20 – FLAG asked that this remain on the Issues and Actions Log although it is for UU to resolve. Can UU provide an update? **UU**
- k) Issue 20/03 - FLAG has concerns about continued flooding of highway – danger to traffic on A586. **LCC / EA**
- l) Issue 20/19 – Can LCC provide an update? **LCC**
- m) Issue 20/20 – Can UU /EA provide update? **UU / EA**
- n) Issue 20/21 – EA to provide an update. **EA**
- o) Issue 20/25 – Can EA provide update? **EA**
- p) Flooding on 20/21 January – concerns raised about properties on Moss Side Lane being cut off during heavy rainfall – new issue 21/07 **EA / LCC / WBC**
- q) Rawcliffe Road embankment - FLAG expressed concern about the condition of the sandbags - when is the work expected to be undertaken? **EA**
- r) New issue – Flooding to Allotment Lane – flooding of highway and sewage flooding to garden. **UU / LCC**

Great Ecclestone FLAG (met 16 Feb)

- Areas of concern - Moss Side Lane, Hall Lane, Copp Lane, Whites Bridge (and A586), Raikes Road.
- Moss Side Lane - issue of flooding of highway preventing access/egress to residential properties. Consider raising road or containment of floodwater on field. **LCC / EA**
- Flooding on Butts Lane – can LCC check gullies? **LCC**
- Whites Bridge - concern about flooding of A586 through bridge parapet. Potential for vehicle accident when hitting floodwater, particularly at night. Can signage be provided to warn drivers in advance of the bend in the A586? **LCC**
- Raikes Road - regular flooding at junction with Lancaster Road. Outfall to river needs further checking and clearing. New owner of land containing outfall. **WBC / UU**

Pilling FLAG (met 17 Feb)

- a) Flooding to Moss House Lane from development off Garstang Road. **WBC**
- b) Moss House Lane requires resurfacing following recent flooding. **LCC**
- c) St Johns Ave / School Lane junction – have LCC cleared highway gullies? **LCC**
- d) Highway drain by Bodkin Hall – have LCC cleared yet? **LCC**
- e) Flooding of highway on Carr Lane – have LCC checked highway drainage? **LCC**
- f) Flooding at junction of Taylors Lane and Lancaster Road – have LCC checked highway drainage? **LCC**

Out Rawcliffe FLAG (via email)

- a) EA previously advised that they would investigate problem of water logged fields – no communication yet from EA. Can EA confirm that this is in hand? **EA**
- b) Road flooded, Bodkin Lane. **LCC**
- c) Dry Bread Lane, matters being managed by Mark O'Donnell. **LCC**
- d) Union Lane watercourse which flows to Broadfleet in Pilling, running clear? **EA to confirm.**
- e) Road flooded on riverside road Out Rawcliffe, at the bottom of the hill just past Town End, possibly a drain needs clearing, but water is normally across the road. **LCC**
- f) Knitting Row Lane / Hudson Cottage, needs attention re drainage into field. **LCC**