

**ROCHFORD DISTRICT FORUM FOR SURFACE WATER FLOODING ISSUES
NOTES OF MEETING HELD 8 NOVEMBER 2018**

Rochford District Councillors: Cllrs T G Cutmore, B T Hazlewood, Mrs C E Roe, P Shaw, D J Sperring, M J Steptoe, I H Ward and A L Williams.

Other Agencies: R Baranowski (Essex County Council Highways (ECCH)), M Cottage (ECCH), B Crittenden (AW), R Webster (EA), D Chapman (ECC)

Officers: M Harwood-White (RDC Assistant Director, Commercial Services), and M Power (RDC Minutes)

Agenda Item	Key observations
Apologies	Apologies were received from Cllrs G J Ioannou, Mrs J R Lumley, R Milne, Mrs L Shaw, C M Stanley, C Box (AW).
Minutes	The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2018 were agreed as a correct record.
	Essex County Council Flood Team
<i>Flood Park Magnolia Public Open Space (ROC7)</i>	Phase 1. ECC needs to demonstrate that the habitat of the great crested newt can be adequately protected before works can be undertaken. Phase 2 in design stage. Phases 1 and 2 will be taken forward together. Phase 1, which will increase capacity, has been completed and will be tied in with Phase 2, proposals north of Rochford Garden way.
<i>ECC Capital Flood Programme Fund.</i>	<i>Further information to be provided on the approach to allocation of funding for food alleviation work by the ECC Flood Partnership Board and on joint strategic working across boundaries of authorities.</i> This is a 5-year capital programme but there is a move to extend this beyond 5 years. Funding for Year 4 in 2019/20 has been allocated.

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	<p>The Community Flood Improvement Fund, which is used for smaller schemes with local importance, will be removed as at the end of 2018/19 due to financial pressures. Funding continues to be available for eligible schemes in this financial year. ECC is aware that Rawreth continues to have flooding problems and will assist with the application process for funding for flood alleviation in Rawreth if requested. (A blocked pipe that runs under Rawreth village is a maintenance issue.)</p> <p>Essex County Council feeds into the District Council planning process as part of the consultation process for major developments in respect of flood alleviation matters in large housing development schemes. ECC could liaise with developers to ascertain whether additional benefits could be achieved in Rochford Garden Way.</p>
	<p>Essex County Council Highways (ECCH)</p>
Laburnum Way, Rayleigh	<p><i>ECC working on the redesign of the culvert.</i></p> <p>The redesign is programmed to take place towards the end of 2018/19. There has been agreement with the landowner 'Greenbelt' that the culvert will be cleared on a regular basis.</p>
Eastwood Rise, Rayleigh	<p><i>ECCH clearance of gullies and channel servicing the surfaced carriageway.</i></p> <p>This is an unadopted road and not maintained; with ECC Legal team. RDC to liaise with ECC.</p>
Church Road, Hockley	<p><i>Highway gullies under the railway bridge.</i></p> <p>If this area of Church Road has not been included in the cyclical programme, ECCH will arrange for clearance of the gullies and ensure lines jetted through. Gullies along Church Road generally have been cleared.</p>

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Church Road/Old London Road, Rawreth	<p><i>ECCH would clear the gullies and investigate the camber of the road, which had resulted in water running into front gardens of houses from the bridge onwards.</i></p> <p>The site should have been included in the cyclical programme of gulley clearance; if not, it will be added. The programme is scheduled for completion by the beginning of December 2018.</p>
Stambridge Road (opposite Little Stambridge Hall Lane)	<p><i>ECCH to inspect drainage outside property, which is being flooded during heavy rainfall.</i></p> <p>ECCH to speak to the landowner in respect of continuing regular maintenance. ECCH had visited the site and had seen no issues.</p>
Paglesham Soakaway	<p><i>Maintenance upgrade - timescale for this to be undertaken.</i></p> <p>ECCH visited the site last week when there was heavy rain and a large puddle had formed. The soakaway has been cleared and will continue to be monitored as it does retain water. There are no natural ditches here and it is difficult to establish how to get water away from the site. It is now considered urgent and could be added to the Surface Water Alleviation Scheme register for improvement/upgrade, but this would depend on priorities.</p>
Warwick Road (from Trinity Road to the Chase)	<p><i>ECCH to investigate the report that this area is sinking and has a crack.</i></p> <p>Inspectors advised that there were no defects on the system. There is a dip in the centre of the road outside number 43. ECCH to establish what is causing the road surface to be unstable.</p>
4 and 6 Stambridge Road, jt with Rocheway and Weir Pond Road.	<p><i>ECCH to look at putting another gulley in or raising the kerb.</i></p> <p>The gullies have been jetted and cleared. Further survey work should be carried out to see where drainage flows to. Residents advise that there is still flooding in very heavy rainfall but that it is clearing more quickly; it should be jetted frequently.</p>

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<p>73 Broadwalk, Hockley</p>	<p><i>Gullies blocked, gardens flooded.</i></p> <p>The gullies have been cleared and drains are working. The option of reinstating the ditch would be a long-term solution (RDC).</p>
<p>Old London Road/Fairglen Interchange, Rawreth</p>	<p><i>Balancing pond flooding.</i></p> <p>D Chapman, ECCH (Structures) had met Cllr Stanley – the issue was ongoing. ECCH were happy with the structures in place and the maintenance regime. A site visit with ECC to discuss the possibility of relocating the pump at Fairglen Interchange had not taken place. The matter to be raised with Cllr Bentley – the ECC Cabinet Member for Infrastructure.</p>
<p><i>Webster's Way, Rayleigh</i></p>	<p><i>The rain drain at the pelican crossing was not collecting water properly, resulting in puddles forming on the public highway.</i></p> <p>The gullies have been jetted and in the heavy rain last week there was no issue. However, there is a slow run here and it is a flat area. ECCH to continue to monitor.</p>
<p><i>Highcliff Crescent to Moons Close at the pedestrian crossing</i></p>	<p><i>Flooding onto the carriageway and then onto the pavement in times of heavy rain. ECCH to jet the gully to try to establish the cause.</i></p> <p>In heavy rain the gullies cannot cope with the capacity of the water; there was a problem the previous week during the heavy rain. The ECCH system drops into the AW system and AW has programmed work to be done. Continue to be monitored by ECCH.</p>
<p><i>Rayleigh Taxi Rank</i></p>	<p><i>Two blocked drains, which could result in shops being flooded in heavy rain.</i></p> <p>Problem area with heavy footfall. ECCH would continue to monitor.</p>

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<p><i>Sutton Road, just before junction with Purdey's Estate.</i></p>	<p><i>Issue with the ditch incorrectly instated.</i></p> <p>This will continue to be monitored. ECCH to talk to the landowner/investigate further.</p>
<p><i>Broad Oak Way, junction with Queens Road, Rayleigh.</i></p>	<p><i>Reports of flooding at the junction causing issues to the house opposite.</i></p> <p>There is a drain on the corner that does not seem to be coping in times of heavy rain and the water runs into no. 43 Queens Road. It looked clear when ECCH visited the site the previous week but needs to be monitored. Keep on Agenda.</p>
<p><i>Windsor Way, Rayleigh</i></p>	<p><i>Where it flooded before the drains can't cope, which happened during the last downpour.</i> (Cllr Mrs Roe declared an interest in this item by virtue of living in this road.)</p> <p>Recently the drains couldn't cope in heavy rain; the water stays on the road outside nos. 39 and 52. Collapsed drain outside no. 52 had been rectified. To be monitored.</p>
<p><i>Grove Road, Rayleigh</i></p>	<p><i>Flooding during heavy rain.</i></p> <p>This was passed to AW as it is a capacity issue. AW advise that by 2020 there will be an upgrade to the pump system to alleviate the issue. ECCH can make sure the gullies are clear. The kerbing is not directed into the gullies. There is a similar issue where York Road goes into Warwick Green. AW to liaise with ECCH.</p>
<p><i>Drainage at Goose Cottages, Rawreth</i></p>	<p><i>Pipes blocked.</i></p> <p>Single gully by the green with a drainage issue. ECCH to jet the gully to establish whether there is a restricted flow.</p>

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	Rochford District Council (RDC)
Oak Road, Rochford	<i>Awaiting response from ECC Legal regarding request for permission by residents to access the ditch at the rear of their properties via Ironwell Lane.</i> The Road is unadopted. RDC to investigate.
Hockley County Primary School	<i>Blockage to surface water pipe causing ditch to back up and flood Footpath 11, Hockley.</i> Works to unblock surface water pipe causing ditch to back up and flood Footpath 11, Hockley had been scheduled to take place during the school summer holidays. RDC to investigate why this had not happened.
<i>Nobles Green Ditch from Milton Close to Bramfield Road East</i>	<i>Works to keep growth under control. RTB arranging for works as necessary.</i> Vegetation cleared from the `V` channel (Nobles Green Ditch). Resolved that clearance works be carried out annually. Completed.
	Environment Agency (EA)/Private Landowners
Barling Creek/Kimberley Road Ditch	(Cllr Steptoe declared an interest in this item as the ditch runs into his garden.) Maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner and it had not been possible to locate the owner. A new screen had been installed. Cllr Steptoe to liaise with officers to progress this.
<i>Bridge at Church Road, Rawreth</i>	<i>Water spilling over the top of the bridge. EA to meet with the Structures Team later this month.</i> ECC to investigate the issue with ECCH (Structures), in liaison with RDC, and update Rawreth Flood Action Group.

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<p><i>Brook behind new development in London Road, Rayleigh</i></p>	<p><i>Maintenance.</i> AW to organise growth to be cut back on the section of footpath. EA had programmed hand brush cut works on the main river section for Oct/Nov. RDC to contact Sanctuary Housing, the private landowner, which has responsibility for keeping growth cut back.</p>
<p>Lower Wyburns Wood</p>	<p>Flood Alleviation along Eastwood Brook. EA had met with Cllr Stanley, Rayleigh Town Council, Southend Borough Council and consultants. Discussions as to whether Lower Wyburn Wood would have sufficient capacity to be used as a temporary flood storage area when the underpass at Rayleigh Weir is pumped. The ECC Cabinet Member, representatives from RDC and AW to discuss fluvial and surface water flooding.</p>
<p>Anglian Water</p>	
<p><i>Development at Plumberow Mount to 43 Cornhill Avenue</i></p>	<p><i>Flooding of gardens.</i> Issues of surface water/ground water flooding to rear gardens of 43, 45, 47 & 49 Cornhill Avenue. Determine whether a land drain could be installed across the rear gardens and connect into the public surface water sewer. RDC to liaise with AW.</p>
<p><i>Sanctuary Housing holding area behind Fairmead, Rayleigh</i></p>	<p>Maintenance to be undertaken by AW twice a year - sideway has not been cleared. AW advised that, as part of the annual programme, vegetation clearance/cut back to footway access rear of Fairmead was last done 11 September 2017. AW to visit site to see if it needs doing and, if so, arrange for works to be undertaken.</p>
<p><i>Flooding in Grove Road, Rayleigh during heavy rain – AW/ECCH</i></p>	<p>These works are on the programme.</p>
<p>Any other business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocked gullies under the bridge in Rectory Road – ECCH to investigate/organise for jetting if this has not been done as part of the cyclical cleanse

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- Sea defence, Great Wakering. A scheme was put forward in 2015. EA Coastal Team to email Cllr Steptoe with an update. Victoria Drive residents had raised the issue.
- Great Wakering High Street outside nos. 9 and 17 - issue of road flooding into gardens. Gullies at either end of the properties are blocked. ECCH have changed the profile of the road. The kerbs cannot be raised due to the high voltage cable close to the surface of the road. A request for a Surface Water Alleviation Scheme has been made and feasibility is currently being undertaken.
- Timberwharf. ECC has put this on the system for investigation – any water course issues can be looked at. To establish the outcome of the RDC investigations RDC.
- Chapel Lane: Open ditch, which was cleared in 2015 but now has part of the bank collapsing into the ditch. AW re-routed part of the piped ditch into the open ditch in 2016. Five residents are badly affected. Determine who the landowner is - records to be checked RDC.
- Blocks of flats, Little Wakering Road (outside garage) - water gathers and floods properties. ECCH.
- Pooles Lane Hullbridge adjacent to Brandy Hole new development: Park Homes Shangri-la. This is full of concrete with a brick wall having been built by the owners. Enforcement issue – RDC to investigate.
- Fairmead – residents thanked AW for clearing the pathway behind nos. 1-4. Cllr Mrs Lumley had raised the issue with Sanctuary Housing. Vegetation had not been cut back in this area. RDC to liaise with Sanctuary and contact resident.
- EA confirmed that flood maps are updated approximately every 5 years.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On the other side of Goose Cottages an open ditch pipe runs under the road that doesn't drain away. The culvert is across the road and the pipe runs under the road, flows into the ditch and floods. This may be due to a blockage.• Laburnum Way, Rayleigh. A meeting with Ringway Jacobs had been requested. Cllr Maddocks to raise at the LHP meeting for progression.• Church Road, Rawreth. Bridge is too small which causes flooding. Countryside Estates has S106 monies towards a scheme and has agreed that there is a serious flooding problem. Mr Plummer will be advised who can be contacted in ECC/ECCH (Structures) to discuss capacity through the opening in the bridge.• Rawreth Flood Action Group can make an application for funding - funding is only available for new and improvement works to prevent flood risk to residential properties.
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The meeting started at 10.30 am and ended at 12.00 pm.