

South Ferriby Parish Council

**Minutes of the Flood Protection Committee meeting held
on Monday 24th July 2017 at 7.00pm
in South Ferriby Village Hall, Horkstow Road, South Ferriby**

Present

**Cllr Sara Haddon (Chair) Cllr Dewi Bennett Cllr Roy Holloway
Cllr Dave Mouncey (left meeting at 7.26pm)**

1 member of the public

240717/1 Apologies

None.

240717/2 Declarations of Interest

a) Declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below:

Cllr Bennett	All Agenda Items	Personal	South Ferriby Resident & Flood Affected on 5/12/2013
Cllr Haddon	All Agenda Items	Personal	South Ferriby Resident & Flood Affected on 5/12/2013
Cllr Holloway	All Agenda Items	Personal	South Ferriby Resident & Flood Affected on 5/12/2013
Cllr Mouncey	All Agenda Items	Personal	South Ferriby Resident & Flood Affected on 5/12/2013

b) Dispensations to stay, discuss and vote given to all Councillors regarding all agenda items.

240717/3 Flood Defence Works

Action with regards to the following:

a) Environment Agency proposals.

- There are four options that increase incrementally in price and scope of works.
- Many residents have queried why it has taken 3½ years for such a simple solution to be proposed.
- Cllr Bennett commented that it is still unknown what the level of protection for each scheme would be, defined in terms of a 1 in ? years event. Cllr Haddon believed that this figure would be unavailable until the Humber levels have been calculated and this is due next year, however, the PC could still request a 'best guess' level of protection from the EA.
- Statistically speaking, it has been quoted that the tidal surge of December 2013 was a 1 in 450-year event but it appears that after an event the statistical prediction changes rather than remaining the same. Members agreed that a statistical explanation of this would be useful.
- Members would welcome the most comprehensive option 4.

b) Current position.

- Cllr Haddon confirmed that the proposals were progressing as fast as they could within the required procedures that exist. Their procedures are protracted, however, Andrew Percy MP and NLC are fully supportive and are driving it forward as much as they can. There are environmental and nature constraints too. Cllr Holloway advised that the EA had to thoroughly look at the range of options available and this took time. Additionally, as a small

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

South Ferriby Parish Council

community, the economic basis for the works is low. Cllr Haddon felt that 12 months of the works were lost due to the EA losing their Project Manager and also a number of false starts.

c) Timetable.

- As per the village communication day information sheet, the works are still scheduled to commence in 2019.
- Cllr Mouncey commented that he has been approached by a number of disgruntled residents who do not feel that the PC has done enough to push the EA to speed up this process. Residents do not understand why this committee was not set up sooner. Cllr Haddon advised that the PC has very little influence and personally has not come across residents that have a problem with the actions of the PC, although, they are understandably frustrated with how long the process is taking. The defence works had previously been discussed at full council meetings, however, time is constrained due the nature of other agenda items that must be discussed at monthly meetings. It was felt that a Flood Protection Committee would be able to dedicate more time as and when the project demanded it. Cllr Mouncey also felt that the PC's current involvement, via this committee, could delay the project even further and that the flood defence works discussions should be discussed at full council. He also commented that perhaps now is the time that the media should be involved. It was at this point that Cllr Mouncey resigned from the committee and left the building.

d) Communications.

- Cllr Haddon will draft a letter to the EA in response to the village communication event and mindful of matters raised at tonight's meeting. This will be circulated to members prior to being sent.

e) Strategy going forward.

- The PC are not a statutory consultee and as such have limited influence. The best way forward is to keep talking in an open and responsive way, regardless of how frustrating the whole process is and has been. Members are here to look after the interests of the Sluice Road residents.
- Cllr Holloway commented that he felt that communications from the EA were much improved of late and is hopeful that they would stick to the timetable.
- Cllr Haddon to draft an article for the Low Villages Newsletter.

The meeting closed for a comment from the member of the public.

Public Participation

- Mrs Petit commented that she had found tonight's meeting interesting and agreed with members on some points. The whole process has been going on for too long though.
- Mrs Petit also fears that another flood is highly likely due to global climate change.
- Will the barriers that were put up in January 2017 (due to a flood warning) be erected every time? They must have been expensive. Are they readily available?
- Cllr Haddon commented that what she found worrying was the EA's inability to accurately predict. Warnings are issued on the basis that a flood may happen not that it will happen.
- Cllr Haddon also advised that most residents found the village communication event in July useful. People listened and completed comment forms for the EA.

The meeting reopened.

240717/4 Flood Warnings

Jan Peters at Cemex is considering the availability of a siren that can be donated to the village. If that is unsuccessful, the PC should look at the feasibility of obtaining its own.

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

South Ferriby Parish Council

240717/5 Individual Flood Resilience Measures

- It is unclear whether more funding will be available for those that didn't benefit from it last time.
- Could NLC provide a Flood Resilience Officer to check homes and advise from an impartial standpoint?
- What are the merits of the different types of resilience e.g. flood doors versus gates etc. Which measures are better than others? Mrs Petit advised that she was aware of a number of flood doors that had lock issues.
- Do residents check their one-way valves? Are they able to?
- What are the life expectancy of the seals? Consensus appears to be 10 years.
- Are home owners new to the village aware of the measures that they need to put in place?
- Cllr Holloway will contact NLC regarding gaining advice from a Flood Officer.

240717/6 Flood Elements of Emergency Plan

No action.

240717/7 Insurance Issues

Cllr Haddon has been liaising with an insurance broker who has advised that insurers have specific quotas dependent upon postcodes. It is advisable for residents to shop around for the best quote and to not be quickly put off by high premiums as there will be insurers out there that have not reached their quota. Additionally, residents are advised to always mention Flood Re. It was felt that this committee will be useful for residents to share their own experiences. Cllr Haddon will write an article for the Low Villages Newsletter.

240717/8 Matters Arising

- The EA are also seeking the view of the community on options for gates/barriers across the A1077. Cllr Haddon will seek further clarification on the technical differences of each of the four proposals and the required maintenance, storage etc.
- Maureen Petit agreed to join the committee as a community member.
- Members had no comment with regards to the EA's proposed reptile survey.
- The cancelled landowners breakfast has not been rearranged.
- Cllr Holloway advised that at the Goxhill Marshes compulsory purchase is being mooted; proposing that the area becomes a flood plain. At the Humber Strategy Launch it was said that it would be unlikely that Goxhill would be protected as there wasn't a big enough economic case to do so.

240717/9 Date of Next Meeting

7pm, 25th September 2017.

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____