

Carisbrooke Road Flooding Community Response Meeting 2nd February 2017 Holbrook Hall

Most attendees were not supportive to the formulation of an emergency community response plan for the following reasons:

- The solution to the flooding experienced was a longer term engineering one and in particular creating water holding areas further upstream and widening the existing culvert pipes
- Residents have a lack of time to respond to a flood, many work and are unlikely to be at home
- Other residents, who are more likely to be at home, are elderly and could not move signs or sandbags
- If it's a heavy rain downpour then the residents have less than 30 minutes before the flooding occurs
- Leicester City Council officers had promised to contract a property level protection surveyor for the residents of houses that have flooded but the deadline for this had passed and nothing had happened. Effective property level protection is the short-term solution rather than an emergency response

Other matters discussed included:

- Met Office "Severe Weather Warnings" might assist residents in judging whether flooding might occur and to take precautions as Environment Agency Flood Warnings do not cover the Hol Brook. Residents could sign up for this service by visiting the Met Office website (Link: <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>)
- Some contributing causes to the flooding were believed to be no attenuation tank built as part of the New Church Close site and yet it was part of the development's planning permission. Large amounts of water coming down the Hol Brook come from Oadby including the Race Course / A6 roundabout and the University of Leicester Botanical Gardens
- There are properties that border the Hol Brook on Shanklin Drive whose residents don't keep their section of the banks clear. Residents in the local area have informed the City Council about this problem. They would like the Council to do more enforce them keeping their section of the banks clear
- The culvert opening near 108 Carisbrooke Road needs either a fixed grill on the opening or the channel section should be entirely piped underground
- A round table meeting including all interested parties and councillors needs to be organised
- The system in Carisbrooke Road and by the shops on Knighton Church Road cannot cope with the volume of water and this forces the manhole covers up

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- Surface water coming down Carisbrooke Road adds to the Hol Brook flooding and threatens other properties. It was believed this was due to lack of drains and capacity of those that exist
- Large vehicles (especially buses) being driven too fast through flood water can cause bow waves that flood into properties that might otherwise be unaffected or less affected and electronic signs or similar combined with close liaison with transport companies can minimise this
- There is a Knighton Forum that could be used to disseminate information or be engaged in this issue (Link: <http://www.knightonforum.org.uk/>)
- Whether Severn Trent Water or Leicester City Council is responsible for Hol Brook needs to be established clearly
- Support and advice is available from the National Flood Forum, a registered charity (Link: <http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/>)
- Although elderly residents could not be expected to carry heavy sandbags from a nearby store it might make the Leicester City Council response better (not having to go to the depot to pick up sandbags) and allow residents who were able to place some across door thresholds as demonstrated by the bags of garden compost placed across the threshold of a garage workshop to divert water