

The Hanney's Flood Group

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 13th May 2009

Attendees: Stewart Scott, Alan Miles, Iain Brown, Vivien Shelton, Ian Green, Paul Aram, Paul Dyer, Derek Witts, Kay Sayers, Tony Day

Apologies: Steve Kendall, Bob Wilson

Meeting Objective: This meeting was arranged to discuss the merits of converting the Hanney's Flood Group into a fully constituted organisation.

Introduction

Stewart Scott opened the meeting by presenting an illustrated review of the work performed by the group since its inception.

He explained that the group had developed close working relationships with the Environment Agency, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire Highways, East and West Parish Councils and Vale of White Horse District Council.

As well as practical advice, some of these partnerships have served to fund major projects performed by the group to-date. £3000 funding has been received from each of the EA, OCC and VWHDC. Both Parish Councils have also provided smaller but still very welcome financial support. The group does not have a bank account, so EHPC has also acted as banker for the group.

Projects performed included clearing ditches in Summertown and Ebbs Lane, selective weed clearance in Letcombe Brook, clearance of major debris in Childrey Brook, installing additional Lower Mill bypass pipes and the bank raising work northwards from the Iron Bridge.

In addition to the flood group actions, mention was also made of the pro-active role that local landowners with riparian responsibilities are taking.

In concluding his presentation, Stewart discussed several future projects and the fact that regular work will be required for the foreseeable future to ensure that the channels are kept clear and future flooding risk significantly reduced.

Constitution

On the basis of the above report, funds will be required to ensure appropriate equipment, training and materials can be purchased. Although the group has operated to-date without incident on an ad-hoc basis, some of the activities carry a risk of personal injury and so appropriate Public Liability insurance cover would be

highly desirable. These are just some examples of where a properly constituted organisation would be in a far better position to convey and secure it's needs compared to the present informal arrangements that operate.

It was quickly agreed by all present that the group should be converted into a formal constituted body. A draft constitution that had been widely circulated prior to the meeting was then presented and agreed upon. Consistent with one of the constitutional terms, volunteers were sought to form a management committee and Stewart Scott, Alan Miles, Steve Kendall and Paul Dyer agreed join.

Regarding general membership of the group, it was agreed that anyone who registers on the groups website (www.thehanneysfloodgroup.org.uk) will be deemed members of the group.

A vote was then taken to adopt the position, which was proposed by Tony Day, seconded by Kay Sayers and unanimously voted through by all those present.

The meeting closed at 20:50hrs