

## **Kingsbridge Town Council**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FLOOD & WINTER RESILIENCE COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2019 IN QUAY HOUSE**

**Present:** Cllr Barrie Fishman (Chairman)  
Cllr Anne Balkwill  
Cllr Peter Ralph

**In Attendance:** Johnathan Hubbard, Pell Frischmann  
David Dain, Winter Weather Warden  
One Member of Public  
Ann Gomm (Secretary)

#### **18/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Graham Price and Peter Trembath, Flood Warden.

#### **Public Open Forum**

There were no statements from Members of Public.

#### **18/11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### **18/12 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members were in receipt of the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 September 2018 which were approved as a correct record.

#### **18/13 KINGSBRIDGE CATCHMENT STUDY**

Pell Frischmann provided an update on the Kingsbridge Integrated Urban Drainage Management project:

- A solution to manage flooding in the Devon Square and Mill Street area was anticipated within the next 6 months.
- A new pumping station had been proposed at the head of the estuary to be located in the public toilets area.
- Works were also proposed in the Quay roundabout area at the bottom of Fore Street to fix a damaged culvert.
- Funding would be required in the next 5 years to progress improvements which were supported by Devon County Council (DCC) and South West Water.
- A final report was anticipated to be completed by September 2019.

**14.1 Kingsbridge Community Emergency Plan (last reviewed September 2018).**

The CEP had been adopted in October 2014 following encouragement from DCC and the Environment Agency (EA) regionally for all communities to produce an emergency plan particularly those in high risk flood zones. It had been checked recently to ensure all contact details were correct. However, it was reported that the Kingsbridge community may have relaxed given there had been no substantial flood incidents recently notwithstanding EA amber warning alerts and Town Council (KTC) local communications. It was **RECOMMENDED** for a Working Party to be formed to review the Kingsbridge Community Emergency Plan in close detail, to explore emergency/flood scenarios and to consider KTC/community actions.

**14.2 Flood incidents since last meeting.** There had been no significant incidents however, sporadic minor flooding of the Quay roundabout area had occurred during spring tides which combined with heavy rainfall. There had been one incident in 2018 when The King of Prussia had flooded.

**14.3 Flood Wardens.** There were 11 nominated Flood Wardens at various locations who were kept informed of committee meetings. Review of the CEP (see minute 14.1) would explore their role.

**14.4 Spring tides 2019.** KTC identified a diary of high tides over 5m high on its Facebook page one week prior to all potential flood incidents. This action usually received numerous hits and was then shared to interested parties. A full annual diary of high tides was available on the KTC website.

**14.5 Highways flashing flood warning signs – new control system.** Action West had adapted one of the 2 flood signs to operate via a ‘tv remote’ style system which the Chairman demonstrated. The sign needed to be re-positioned at the top of Ilbert Road and then replicated for the warning sign located in The Promenade. On completion, a KTC/Flood Warden system needed to be worked up to operate the same to be added to the CEP’s Community Flood Plan (see minute 14.1).

**14.6 Community resilience store – new build in Quay House grounds.** South Hams District Council had approved the conditions for planning permission 1565/18/FUL to develop a new store at the rear of the Garage. A galvanised container would now be purchased. This would be built on a sleeper base, painted on site in drab green and a bespoke ramp would be required for access. On completion, and similar to other new initiatives, a KTC/Flood Warden system needed to be worked up to access the same and added to the CEP (see minute 14.1).

**14.7 River and rain gauges – management contract.** The rain gauge was located at Kingsbridge Community College (on the rooftop) and the river gauge was at Dodbrooke Stream (next to the trash screen off Duncombe Street). Both worked efficiently and provided messages by text and email to 4 named persons in the CEP. The last time the

gauges were triggered, and notifications received, was in November 2018. Hydro Logic Services maintenance ended on 31 March 2019 when it then fell to KTC to administer. It was **RECOMMENDED** for KTC to manage the river and rain gauges from 1 April 2019 and to gain a quotation for the same.

**14.8 Highways gullies – cleaning March 2019.** About 50 surface water drains had been identified to be cleared around town; expenditure would be over the set budget however, funding had been increased for the next financial year (see minute 14.9).

**14.9 Budget financial year 2019/20 – enhanced funding.** The current budget was £500 which had been increased to £2,000 for next financial 2019/20 i.e. £250 grit bins, £250 sand/sandbags, £500 rain/river gauges and £1,000 surface water drains clearance.

## **18/15 WINTER RESILIENCE**

**15.1 Grit bins & grit supply.** DCC had supplied one tonne of grit free-of-charge in late 2018. A new grit bin had been installed in Higher Union Road and KTC now managed 10 grit bins around town. All had been re-stocked for winter 2018/19 with new scoops where required.

**15.2 Winter Weather Incidents 2018/19.** None to date.

**15.3 Winter Weather Wardens.** There were about 20 Winter Weather Wardens at various locations around town; all have grit stored at their homes in readiness for use in their neighbourhoods.

## **18/16 IMMEDIATE MATTERS**

There were no immediate matters.

## **18/17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 17 September 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

*The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.*