

DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING: 16th January 2023

AGENDA ITEMS: 12 & 15

1. Report to Council

Dated: 05th January 2023

2. Subject: GROUNDS and FLOODING.

3. Report Prepared By: Cllr Thompson.

Lead Members Report

GROUNDS REPORT

1. The Datchet Parish Council has taken delivery of the Kubota utility vehicle and trailer which is proving to be an efficient addition to our Grounds activities. – Please see pictures of the Kubota utility vehicle which was delivered by Ben Bloomfield of George Brown delivery was taken by Dean Smith and Cllr I Thompson.



2. The Christmas Tree has been removed, we await grass recovery in the Memorial Green following Christmas on the green, and the Datchet Border Morris event, both events were litter picked and clear the following day.
3. The hedge alongside of the Thames Water compound has been cut as far as possible, some Ivy has been left as it is holding up Thames Water fencing, TW have been informed of their fence condition.
4. A date for switching off the main road Christmas Lighting is awaited from our contractor.
5. Paths from the Horton Road Car park to the library have been cleared of leaves, and the library car parking drain has been unblocked, leaves and conkers removed. Very little outside works has been possible during the December cold spell, cleaning and varnishing of seat slats has continued within the workshop. Litter picking has continued daily.

FLOODING AND DRAINAGE REPORT

1. A meeting was held at Wraysbury Village Hall instigated by the Environment Agency relative to a public consultation with regard to Channels 2&3 of the River Thames Scheme with inclusion for their proposals regarding flooding protection between Datchet and Hythe End.

Cllr Ian Thompson - Lead Member for Grounds and Flooding and Drainage.

Cllr Ewan Larcombe and Cllr Ian Thompson attended to represent concerns of the Datchet residents and the four Parishes that come within the original Channel 1 catchment area. During discussion between David Bedlington Chair of the RTS and Cllr Thompson, Mr Bedlington requested that Cllr Thompson set out his concerns within a paper for discussion within the EA. This was completed and sent to the EA, and copies circulated to all of our Datchet Parish Cllrs for information and comment.

2. As yet there have been no technical details from the EA regarding their alternative proposals to supplant RTS Channel 1 within the reach from Datchet to Hythe End.
3. The EA have issued their strike non work date schedule.
4. The EA are not issuing their normal warning notices specific to our location but refer to the national warning schedule for information. It is of concern that many in our society and community were used to the telephone flood warnings and the notice board within the village centre. Not everyone has a computer access.
5. Cllr Thompson will continue to monitor the weather warnings and the river lock conditions inc the Jubilee River and Taplow gates, when a level of flooding risk arises Councillors and the Parish web site will be advised. As last year daily predictions will be issued if a risk arises.
6. The EA have confirmed that they intend to meet with DPC members to reassess demountable flood barriers for Southlea Road, this provision will NOT be available for this winter.
7. Just to advise, The River Thames is red boarded throughout its length. Local Locks are within their NORMAL water level band.
8. There has been no confirmation when the Barrel Arch works will proceed from RBWM. As of today, no contact has been received from Thames Water regarding clearing the Datchet Common Brook, although promised at the last forum meeting in November. No response re Network Rail, RBWM Re Eton End Rail Tunnel flood water control.
9. RBWM have stated an intention to visit Datchet to view flooding problems related to blocked road drains around Datchet central Greens, Ben Crampin to confirm date when returned from leave.