

DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING 10th June 2022
Dated 7th June 2022.

AGENDA ITEMS 12 & 15

Report to Council.

Subject Grounds and Flooding

Report prepared by Cllr Thompson.

LEAD MEMBERS GROUNDS REPORT.

I wish to thank everyone Borough Councillors, Councillors, Contractors, the WI, Saint Marys Church, DPC Parish Office staff, The Bridge, and Residents who put in so much effort together to support Grounds and to prepare the Village for the Platinum Jubilee event and to clear up so quickly afterwards to make the Village pristine again. A BIG THANK YOU all round.

We are especially indebted to Andy Chalk, of Architectural Heritage Conservation for restoration of the Jubilee Memorial itself, which entailed structural repairs to serious defects that we were unaware.

No doubt someone will write up a suitable record of the event, including pre and post involvement,

LEAD MEMBERS FLOODING AND DRAINAGE REPORT

Barrel Arch Rectification Project

A meeting took place on 18th May with Borough Officers in relation to the attendance by their contractor who was instructed to re survey the Barrel Arch drainage culvert system.

This instruction raised the following Questions; -

1. The Barrel Arch system had been previously surveyed by Volker Engineering who provided completed video and static pictures with measurements from fixed points. This survey defined areas of dilapidation and risk. Therefore, why were the Borough carrying out a further survey when the contractor had a copy of the Volker survey with them.
2. Why have not the contractor not been briefed or supervised by the Borough.
3. Why are the borough instructing duplication of work.
4. Why did the Borough not issue drawings denoting the location of the Rec ditch, the entry point of the Barrel Arch pipework and the requirement to dam off the Rec ditch water from the Barrel Arch entry point to contain pump out.
5. The method statement and risk assessment were dated January 2022 and were generic, not specific to May 2022, was issued to the contractor on a mobile phone and was not legible at the point of work.
6. Why was this job issued to the DPC with one working days' notice, with no opportunity to comment.

The answer to Q1 was that the Borough could not co-ordinate the underground Volker measurements and relate these to the ground above re fault locations

The answer to Q2 was that the contractor was deemed to be able to carry out the necessary site co-ordination and management from the brief and drawings issued, it is not considered that the Borough site supervise their contractor.

The Answer to Q3 is that the Borough could not relate underground location dimensions to the surface ref Q1.

The Answer to Q4 is that the Borough were not familiar with the area and had not carried out a pre brief survey before awarding the contract.

The answer to Q5 is as stated.

The answer to Q6 is the noted competence level of the Borough.

DPC assessment,

The Borough had embarked on what is possibly the incorrect method of ascertaining the information that they were seeking.

The Borough has embarked on abortive work and COST which has depleted their flood protection budget with a loss to Council Taxpaying residents.

The Borough has set back considerably progress on this project,

The DPC has not been made aware of any further progress since this failure.

OTHER PROJECTS

RBWM is to advise progress on the Rec ditch/ Datchet Common Brook water control, flood protection.

RBWM is to advise progress on the Eton End rail tunnel water control, flood protection.

CLLR Ian Thompson LM for Flooding and Drainage.