

Agenda item 0523-006.1

Alconbury Brook Flood Group Report May 2023

FAS

- EA has produced a new statement summarising progress with FAS, main points below:
 - On the basis of evidence available last summer, the cost of the **June 2022 Options** individually outweighed the benefit, so progress wasn't possible.
 - Updated evidence is being prepared. A new brook survey has been conducted, data from this will be used over the next 3 months for a new model of the brook showing risk levels in different parts of the villages.
 - Once signed off, the model will be used to test the impact of revised options and combinations of options to see if benefit can be shown to outweigh cost.
 - Approx timescale for this work is mid to late autumn 2023 with reporting early 2024.
- Helpful meeting with EA 2 weeks ago to look at updating options and possible workable combinations.

Pond Projects

- Work on Buckworth Scrape is complete apart from some seeding in the autumn. Thank you to many volunteers who helped with everything from site clearance, drawing plans, applying for permits, taking photos, pegging out the site etc. Also massive thanks to Geoff or course for letting us excavate in his field. Thanks also goes to the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation who funded over 80% of the project. Also to HJD Plant who did the excavation



- Planning permission awaited for Alconbury Weston Pond. The statutory expiry date was May 15th, since then we have chivvied but to no effect as yet.
- We have discussed Phil Harts Pond with the Hunts and Beds Wildlife Trust with a view to them assisting. The next steps are a meeting with them on site and a survey day with measuring poles and a canoe.

Flood Mobile

- Thanks to the County Council and members of the Flood Group the visit Alconbury Weston went ahead on April 29th. Over 30 people attended the day

Gabions

- Stage 2 moving to stage 3 = Moving from outline design stage to sourcing funding stage

Sensor Project

- 2 gateways on barns and sensors now sending data to a server in Cambridge. Extraordinary perseverance all round (Well done BJ) Final step is calibration so we can all see graphs of soil moisture etc.
- Cambridgeshire looking at putting a depth gauge on Mile Brook and Buckworth Brook which will use the same system. We are looking at flow sensors to go in the same positions.

GreenBlue Urban project

- 7 possible sites, 3 of which investigated in depth. Parish Councils and Memorial Hall committee are supportive. DF now has quotes for the work on these first projects so work could commence as soon as funding available.

Herbal Ley Project

- Funding now seems to be assured, but other funding being sought to complement work.
- Baseline measure of soil carbon done and will be validated by a commercial laboratory.
- Meeting held about complementary project by EA scientists to look at the sediment run-off in Mile Brook. There is a likely opportunity for many volunteers to be involved in soil data collection. Sediment is an important issue which causes downstream flow restriction. Sediment collector may go in the same position as the sensors above.

Key Dates:

- May 24th Well attended Flood Group AGM. 30-40 attended. Useful talk by Sanjay Johal from the National Flood Forum (NFF) about flood recovery and insurance. NFF website has very useful information for those who want to protect their properties. For more information see [National Flood Forum – A charity to help, support and represent people at risk of flooding.](#)
- June 3rd volunteer BBQ.

Our web-site: [Home \(alconburybrookfloodgroup.uk\)](http://alconburybrookfloodgroup.uk)

Contact us at: info@alconburyfloodgroup.uk

Alconbury Parish Council Meeting – May 2023

Good evening, everyone,

I am pleased to report that Globe Lane in Alconbury will be Resurfaced and passing bays constructed as part of the repair works following the A14 Huntingdon By Pass works. This work is due to be undertaken between 16th October and 3rd November.

Preliminary coring works will be undertaken on May 30th & 31st, whilst this work is undertaken the road will be closed between 9am and 4pm

Parishes should know the outcome of this year's LHI Bids by Mid- June.

Regarding the Proposed Congestion Charge in Cambridge, 58% of respondents to the consultation disagreed with the proposed Sustainable Travel Zone for Cambridge. Opposition was highest in the 35 to 64 age group, as well as commuters into Cambridge. While 34% agreed with the Zone. Support for the zone was highest among the youngest and oldest respondents who find it difficult to access education and healthcare.

The reasons for supporting or opposing covered a wide variety of areas:

Those who supported the scheme were keen to get more frequent buses, it would improve cycling safety and was seen as a positive charge to tackle climate change and reduce congestion.

Those who opposed felt the exemptions did not go far enough and that the charge was perceived as unfair, on those travelling to Addenbrookes and Royal Papworth Hospitals and that it would have a negative impact on jobs.

There is a lot of information available now on how people feel about the scheme, and what positive amendments could be made to the scheme. These include changing the rate for cars, changing the hours, amending the discounts and exemptions, and altering the boundaries of the congestion charge zone.

With regard to the District Council work is continuing regarding the revision/update of the Local Plan. Parish Councils are requested to attend the Local Plan Update Presentation on Monday 5th June at 7pm in the Civic Suite at Pathfinder House, Huntingdon. Parishes can register their attendance by emailing democratic.services@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

East West Rail has published its proposed route between Bedford and Cambridge, which would see a new station at Tempsford before passing through Huntingdonshire and serving a new station at Cambourne. HDC will be lobbying hard for strong community engagement and contributions to HDC's strategic objectives such as jobs, biodiversity net gain and climate amelioration activity

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact preferably by email on Ian.Gardener@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury

Alconbury Parish Council

Prepared by: Alison Brown (Clerk & RFO)
Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Date: 16th May 2023

Approved by: Cllr Tracy Gilbert (Chair)
Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

Date: 30th May 2023

	Bank Reconciliation at 30/04/2023			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023			68,389.00
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 30/04/2023			21,544.08
				89,933.08
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 30/04/2023			3,994.73
A	Cash in Hand 30/04/2023 (per Cash Book)			85,938.35
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	30/04/2023	0.00	
	Unity Trust Bank Instant Access	30/04/2023	35,266.68	
	Unity Trust Bank Current T1	30/04/2023	50,701.32	
				85,968.00
	Less unrepresented payments			29.65
				85,938.35
	Plus unrepresented receipts			
B	Adjusted Bank Balance			85,938.35
	A = B Checks out OK			