

Uplyme Parish Council Flood report August 2013

Physical works on Flood relief

Cllr Ostler has put in a section of 1200mm pipe at the top end of his section, just below the Cooks Mead complex.

Meetings

It is understood that a meeting was held between DCC and EDDC to discuss the Cooks Mead area but nothing has been reported back to UPC. It is also understood that EDDC Housing Department is considering whether it could find funding towards improving this part of the culvert system.

Discussions

The Chairman had a short telephone discussion with Keith Steel, Senior Engineer, EDDC. Mr Steele has done a survey with spot levels. He was asked if he had done the section downstream from the south culvert crossing the B3165, (the culvert adjacent to the tennis courts). He "thought he had". The Chairman explained the potential problem was that he thought there was a high area between the culvert and the river, which caused backing up of water through the culvert and hence upstream.

There was some 2' from the soffit of the culvert to water level in the culvert, and then 1' of standing water, but the invert depth of the culvert could not be determined because of debris. DCC had previously attempted to remove this by jetting but failed.

However downstream, towards the river Lim, the depth of water in the channel was only some 2 inches. Mr Steele said he would check his levels. If the Chairman was correct then work to deepen the downstream channel, and possibly lowering the private access culvert, might considerably reduce the backing up effect from this area.

Such works would be the responsibility of the riparian owner. Previous discussions with Richard Rainbow of DCC Flood Prevention Unit had indicated that DCC had powers under the Local Government Act to instruct such works. However Mr Steel said that if this was shown to be the case, a one-off situation might allow for the works to be done by EDDC or DCC.

Mr Steel said that EDDC was considering what measures could be taken on gravel traps at the north end of the Cooks Mead culverts and he hoped to have discussions with the local landowner.

At Venlake, EDDC was considering installing weirs to try to slow down the amounts of gravel being brought down by the stream, and had now found the

ownership of the land upstream from Mr Kidson. He agreed that this Venlake culvert was totally inadequate in size.

There was no news on the DCC flood unit attempts to get funding of £30,000 towards consultancy fees.

DCC had appointed Mr Edwards as Project Manager for the Flood Resilience Community Pathfinder Project to look after flood relief in the area and a meeting has been arranged for next week between Mr Edwards and Councillor Whiting to show Mr Edwards around the Uplyme flood problem areas.

Cllr Peter Whiting, Chairman, UPC Flood WP

13th August 2013