

Freuchie Flood Action Group

Public meeting held on the 24th September 2008 in the Lumsden Memorial Hall

Invited: All interest residents from Freuchie

Also in attendance Councillor David MacDiarmid (DM)

Agenda Item	Details	Action
1	<p>Introduction John Thomson (JAT) thanked all those present for attending and presented apologies for 8 others who were unavailable.</p>	
2	<p>Presentation JAT presented an outline of what we hoped to achieve from the meeting and setting up the forum and update on information collected. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Naming the group; 2.2 Establishing committee and working parties; 2.3 Preparing constitution and mission statement; 2.4 Engaging with the community and other stakeholders; 2.5 Establishing goals for the forum; and 2.6 Raising awareness through web / media and petition. 2.7 Legal representation was also covered although felt cooperation was best policy at this stage. 	
3	<p>Update on specific flood issues and historical flooding perspective.</p> <p>3.1 Margaret Parker (MP) advised that the culvert under her garden was broken. To allow investigation and repairs, the water would have to be diverted. Neil Duff (ND) confirmed there was a second parallel pipe which may have been used to divert the water in the past. MP asked if a Kingdom engineer could give advice as it was not clear if her insurance would cover the cost of repairing. This would impact rest of street.</p> <p>3.2 Discussion around ownership of waterways, changes to water course and culvert. Duncan Buchanan (DB) suggested that one of working parties could focus on Burns / watercourse and Roads, who owned them and who was responsible for the up keep as this remained unclear.</p> <p>3.3 Car insurance issues where money offered will not cover costs of adapting new car for wheelchair user. JT asked DM is there was anything that he could do to help as a councillor. DM to take forward</p> <p>3.4 JAT has established through historic Sepa data that the rainfall both on the Saturday prior to the flooding and on the 13th was exceptionally high. Ground was heavily saturated so problems were compounded by the water run off and high rainfall.</p>	<p>MP</p> <p>Committee</p> <p>DM</p>
4	<p>Route Cause / Prevention</p> <p>4.1 Potential timescales for any large scales changes to area were established at c. 3-5 years. Forum would need to look at immediate / medium and long term solutions for the village. This must include establishing the root cause of the flooding.</p> <p>4.2 Feeling was that the Council had granted permission for houses to be built and therefore they should take some responsibility. However, it was agreed that this would be unlikely to happen.</p> <p>4.3 A number of channels have been dug between Markinch and Freuchie. It is likely they will increase water flow to village. Again it is not clear who is responsible.</p> <p>4.4 The upper Falkand road was flooded. Water pumped into the fields contributing to the problem. Need to establish whether the council's priority lies with the roads or houses. Photos to be provided.</p> <p>4.5 JM would like to see an early warning system put in place to ensure there is time to defend property.</p>	<p>Committee</p> <p>Committee</p>

5	<p>Volunteers for Committee and Working Party</p> <p>Committee Members John A Thomson (JAT) Jim Mullen (JM) Neil Duff (ND) Margaret Parker (MP) Pamela Ross (PR) Rose Duncan (RD) Duncan Buchanan (DB) Kay Henderson (KH)</p> <p>Freuchie Mill Working Party John A Thomson Neil Duff Margaret Parker Pamela Ross Rose Duncan Duncan Buchanan Kay Henderson</p> <p>Main Village Working Party Jim Mullen Carol Porter (CP) (One other (to be named))</p> <p>Additional Volunteers Shirley Cameron</p>	
6	<p>Update Updates provided by DM on discussions with Kingdom, Fife Council, Network Rail and planning:</p> <p>6.1 1994 plans for FM have been reviewed. Initially show culvert routed round back of houses. This was changed two months later to current format, including the two points of pressure. Unlikely permission to build would be granted now for such a scheme.</p> <p>6.2 Kingdom and Fife Council are in the process of sending out letter detailing plans prior to meeting on 7th. They intend to carry out Work on both ends of the Culvert to improve both flow and access. While work will be carried out neither party accepts liability.</p> <p>6.3 Network rail have been approached and they are willing to contribute to a full scale wider hydrology study in conjunction with Fife Council. Fife Council has still to agree to this.</p>	
7	<p>Concerns</p> <p>7.1 JM raised concern that FM will become priority and the remainder of Freuchie will be forgotten. Kingdom to be asked if they can put pressure on Council to agree to Flood Study as in all interests that this is carried out.</p> <p>7.2 In general drainage within Freuchie and surrounding area was felt to be inadequate to meet increasing rainfall demands. Many drains were blocked at time of flood and remain so today. Council does have responsibility for this.</p>	<p>FM residents.</p> <p>Committee</p>
8	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>8.1 Meetings for FM residents with Kingdom Housing on the 7 October</p> <p>8.2 Community County Council (8/10)</p> <p>8.3 Timing of meeting established as one per month for whole forum. Council to meet as and when required. Potential Dates to be circulated</p> <p>8.4 1st Committee Meeting date TBC JAT to circulate email possible dates</p>	<p>JAT</p> <p>JAT</p>