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Flood Management Working Party

Held at Council Chamber - Ryedale House, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7HH on Thursday 8 July 2021

Present

Councillors Burr MBE, Cussons MBE, Di Keal (virtually), Potter and Raper

In Attendance

Will Baines, Beckie Bennett, Cllr John Clark, Margaret Wallace (virtually), Rachel Parks (virtually)

Minutes

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor MacKenzie.

2 **Appointment of Chair**

Cllr Clark attended the meeting to explain that he would be forgoing the opportunity to chair the working party.

As a result, Cllr Burr proposed and Cllr Raper seconded that Cllr Keal be elected as Chair. This was agreed.

Cllr Burr proposed and Cllr Keal seconded that Cllr Cussons be elected as Vice-Chair. This was agreed.

3 Co-opting

The working party agreed to invite partners and other stakeholders to attend meetings of the Flood Management Working Party as required.

4 Financial Overview

The Head of Waste and Environment gave an overview of the approved financial contribution to the Malton, Norton and Old Malton Flood Scheme, the revenue and capital situation, as well as information on the flood grants scheme run by the Council.

Cllr Burr declared a personal non-pecuniary but not prejudicial interest in the topic as a NYCC County Councillor.

As part of the discussion, Cllr Burr asked for financial budget information from the Chief Finance Officer (s151) to explain the availability of funding from the financial reserves for flood alleviation measures and requested their attendance at the next meeting of the working party. This was recorded as an action.

5 **Draft Flood Mitigation Action Plan**

Flooding - Motion to Council 18 February 2021 (Min No 77)

On 29 June 2021 the Policy and Resources Committee resolved to refer the motion which in summary "....called for the Council to commit up to £2.5 million of reserves to contribute to partnership funding a permanent pumping solution for Norton......" to the Flood Management Working Party.

The working party were of the view that it was not for the Council to commit to completely funding permanent solutions however budget provision would be required. It was agreed that discussions with partners was a high priority to better understand their investment plans and how working together may enable joint-funding opportunities and the delivery of potential future permanent solutions or other natural flood management projects to reduce flood risk.

The working party were in agreement that inviting representatives from Yorkshire Water to the next meeting or as soon as possible was essential. An action was agreed for officers to draft an agenda with clear objectives for the discussion with Yorkshire Water which would be circulated to all members of the working party for agreement prior to the meeting.

The Head of Waste and Environment updated the working party on the multiagency flood mitigation action plan which had been drafted from the two member briefings held in March and April, providing updates on ongoing work from partners. Updates were received on the following:

- Channel Management report
- Community Client Group for the Malton, Norton and Old Malton scheme
- Malton, Norton and Old Malton revised pump plan
- NYCC Programme of Works
- Yorkshire Water Drainage study
- Yorkshire Water Brawby
- Yorkshire Water Living with Water
- Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership
- Yorkshire Humber Drainage Board
- Environment Agency Buttercrambe
- Ongoing Community Group work in Fryton
- Middle Deepdale Monitoring

A Ryedale District Council draft action plan with suggested themes and an overview of timelines for 2021/21 was also shared with members of the working party for information. This would be used by officers as a tracking document to detail specific agreed actions and progress in between meetings.

Updates would then be reported back at each working party meeting. Developing an action plan and work programme for this working party was agreed as an action.

Further information was requested on the NYCC Programme of Works, particularly those that have taken place in Ryedale. This was recorded as an action and the information would be provided to the working party when made available.

There was no update from the Environment Agency and this was recorded as an action for the information to be provided to the working party at a future meeting.

Following these updates, Cllr Potter spoke about the difficulties determining where one organisation's responsibility ends and another begins on flooding, and the recommendation made in the Pitt Review interim report that registers of all the main flood risk management and drainage assets be compiled.

Cllr Potter requested the Council to lobby Government that water companies, such as Yorkshire Water, are made statutory consultees on any planning application in relation to surface water drainage. This was recorded as an action for officers to draft a letter to Government and present it to the next meeting of the Flood Management Working Party for feedback ahead of recommending it to the Policy and Resources committee.

6 Draft Frequently asked Questions - feedback

The draft Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document was considered.

Cllr Potter asked about the answer to question 18 in the FAQs document and whether there are any plans to improve sewage treatment works and the wider network in Ryedale to become modern sewers. This was to be picked up when Yorkshire Water attend the working party.

Cllr Potter requested the Council to lobby the Government that the implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) be made compulsory rather than given as advice through the planning process. This was agreed as an action for officers to draft a letter to Government and present it to the next meeting of the Flood Management Working Party for feedback ahead of recommending it to the Policy and Resources committee.

It was also agreed as a recommendation to Policy and Resources committee that the implementation of SuDS as a compulsory measure rather than as advice be considered as part of the ongoing review of the Local Plan.

Recommendation to P&R

That the implementation of SuDS as a compulsory measure rather than as advice be considered as part of the ongoing review of the Local Plan.

7 Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership

The Head of Waste and Environment reported back to the working party on the meeting of the Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership (YDCP) that had taken place earlier that day. Topics discussed work on the River Derwent uplands, sediment mapping of the River Derwent with interactive maps available online and the 'Doing More for the Derwent' project co-ordinated by the Environment Agency. The Annual YDCP Report and Finance Strategy for 2020/21 was to be shared with working party members and this was recorded as an action.

A representative from the Yorkshire Derwent Catchment Partnership had agreed to attend a future working party meeting.

8 Middle Deepdale Monitoring

This was covered under item 5.

9 Next Steps

Officers will further develop a work programme and detailed action plan to capture all of the actions from the Flood Management Working Party to enable progress to be tracked at each meeting of the working party.

It was agreed as an action that partner updates will be shared with members of the working party as information is received.

It was also agreed as an action that elected members who represent the Council on the Yorkshire and Humber Internal Drainage Board would provide updates to members of the working party.

10 **Any Other Business**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

11 Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.