



March 27th 2024 Flood Meeting .. Notes

Meeting started at 18.10 Karen introduced Peter from JBA and James from Isle of Wight Council Flood Authority.

James said The council has no budget or no resource, and it's picked up by the planning policy manager who is him. He said..

we're just looking back on what occurred last time, what was in the last section 19, looking at some of the recommendations and what's occurred since then. And I think the key thing to say is that it's a multi agency thing. So there's no one policy that's involved. It's a combination of the council, Environment Agency, Southern Water, its everyone responding including Island Roads, So that's a little bit of a bit of an update of where we are, at the time. And what we're looking at, probably open up to questions, comments later.

Peter said So I'm a chartered Senior Analyst. We have worked with a Isle of Wight Council for a number of years now, I project managed the delivery of the last batch of sections 19 reports. He explained what a section 19 was "it's just to establish which flood risk management authorities have relevant responsibilities, and whether and how they're choosing to respond. They are quite a way through the analysis and are now looking at the rainfall for 25th October he said this will always be in a range and never exact but at the moment it looks in the range of 140 to 190 which is infrequent.

We were told JBA were modelling rainfall etc on the basic the flood gate were in and not what actually happened.

James: So as legal authority, IOW Councils role is one of coordination and investigative work. And that's it, we don't have any powers to directly do anything. And again, I guess it's really important to say that the section 19 investigation doesn't come with any money, or grants or funding. So, at the end, when section 19 is completed, there isn't a pot of money that comes with it to deliver the recommendations in the report.

We asked EA for their report of what actually happened to be chased up.

JBA are doing the report for section 19 and EA, they do not think there is a conflict of interest but many disagreed.

We found out Mott McDonald designed the flood scheme originally and the plans can be seen on the council planning website.

<https://publicaccess.iow.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=ZZZTXBIQMS685>

Section 19 does not look at whether the scheme was operated correctly.

EA rep Vicky explained how the NEW procedure worked, if we instruct anyone to come and put the drop boards in, they do not leave the area until all the boards are in or the event is over. They might go to the pumping station and they can go to the ground to clear the ground, but they can't go any further than the harbour They cannot leave the area. She is also looking into getting a letter to us all outlining the 1 in 100 risk as several people had before. She confirmed the valves have been fitted to the drop boards that allow the water from the dry side to enter the wet side of the rec. The discussion then went to flood doors and not boards and she said They're going to be testing the wall for structural elements to make sure that they can take some kind of door and then that'd be bid on.

There was then a long discussions about 2nd and 3rd Teams to deploy the boards, it was suggested by EA that they have other contractors but they are on the mainland and we would be left with the same problem as last time, it was suggested that a few able bodied men were trained in how to deploy the boards and this is being looked into.

A question was asked to JBA. Because you say this is a one in 100 year event, where is your data from as to the quantity of rainfall that occurred in the catchment area concern?

He was answered by Peter. I can answer that Yes. Environmental Agency has a bucket rain gauge at Rosemarys Vinyard and data radar.

It was then asked to JBA. I meet friends and neighbours in Simeon street all the time. And they can be 400 yards away and it's pouring and I am dry. Do you consider that adequate to base all your research on that there's a tipping bucket over the ridge at Rosemarys Vinyard. Are you going to draw your conclusions from just that? Having already said that the radar is not sufficiently accurate. The conclusion was they do not have best data and are using available data to base their results on.

There was then a discussion about the flat valve under the pumping station that is meant to stop tidal ingress. It apparently has not worked for several years and EA originally said it doesn't matter because it will be pumped out by the pumps but maybe this is a problem that needs addressing.

James said If you wish to send info to the council, photos etc llfa@iow.gov.uk

He again said there is no budget to do anything that is needed and recommended in the Section 19 report when it comes out and no authority to get any of the agencies to do anything.

There was then a discussion on the resilient grant and Karen has asked the council if they can find a surveyor, so please register your interest on the councils website now.

A lady then told us about insurance companies build back better scheme so if you have insurance please look into it. So we contacted our insurance, we were entitled to some money potentially exactly the same as the government grant for flood resilience. And it has

to be done by a recognised builder, we're going to get a brand new flood defence front door. And it's going to be put in by the company. we're also going to get a barrier put into our garden, This is that's what we asked for. There were 11 things on the list. That's through our insurance because they belong to the build back better scheme.

It was then stated that someone in Simeon Street had contacted planning at the council and said, I want to consider flood resilience on the house. And they said, are you listed? And she is, are you in a conservation area? And she is. And planning then said, Well, whatever you want to do is going to have to come through us. Karen again is looking into this for us.

Sarah then stated she is gonna send an email tomorrow morning, put in it to ask for a few things we would like altered , or to be considered as a special case. And we'll just make sure that things like that are covered by the council. The council are confined to what they've been told by the levelling up department and they are holding the funds. But last time once we got the BBC involved they started sending emails and all of a sudden, we have paperwork sent through. I think we just do that route again.

Date of next meeting set for May 22nd.