

## ITEM NO: 11            Updating Report from the Flooding Advisory Committee

### 1. Summary:

- i) This report has been prepared to request the Council to adopt the recommendations (contained in section 5) primarily to seek the agreement of Hampshire County Council (HCC) as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to extend the coverage of their current draft report: Copythorne Village – Flood Risk and Coastal Defence Investigation Report – dated September 2019
- ii) HCC may be more receptive to reconsider the coverage of their report if such a request is supported by a formally adopted resolution of the Council after consideration of the following details and a full discussion at this Council meeting.

### 2. Information previously presented to Council:

- i) The first draft version of the current report, dated December 2018, was issued to the Council in December 2018.
- ii) Following a meeting of the (then) Flooding Working Group a list of questions was prepared and sent to HCC. It was hoped that that the commentary before each question would assist HCC in understanding the reason for the question being submitted.
- iii) A copy of this list of questions is given below in Section 3 of this report.
- iv) Item 11 at the Copythorne Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 provided an Update Report on the Flooding Working Group. This report can be accessed on the following link: [Item 11: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019](#).  
However, for the purpose of this report the list of questions in Section 3 below is most relevant.
- v) To date, in answer to these questions, a site meeting has been undertaken with HCC and details of flood grant payments made following the 2013/14 flooding are being investigated.
- vi) Item 9 at the Copythorne Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 provided the latest Update Report of the Flooding Advisory Committee. This report can be accessed on the following link: [Item 9: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019](#).
- vii) On 11<sup>th</sup> December, the day after the December Council meeting, the Clerk issued a copy of the draft HCC report to all members of the Council who had not already received a copy, being those outside the Flooding Advisory Committee.
- viii) Comments have been received from Councillor Steve Herra, which are being held on file to be considered by the Flooding Advisory Committee.

### 3. Comments/Matters Arising on which clarification is required from Hampshire County Council:

(The following is unabridged transcripts of the details accompany the email to Jemima Phipps of HCC on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, with apologies for the variances in formatting.)

1. This report concentrates on Copythorne Village rather than Copythorne Parish as a whole. As stated clearly on the Parish Council website, Copythorne civil parish covers the communities of Bartley, Cadnam, Copythorne, Newbridge, Ower and Winsor (since 1894).

**What were the terms of reference for this study and can this information be made available to the Parish Council?**

2. In section 2.1 Lead Local Flood Authority, Hampshire County Council, on page 6 the following opening statement is made:

*“Hampshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is responsible for managing the risk of flooding from groundwater, surface water (rainfall) run-off, and ordinary watercourses. The LLFA also has powers to enforce maintenance on ordinary watercourses to ensure that they remain functional.*

*The County Council assumed the role of the LLFA under the terms of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. In May 2013, Hampshire County Council (HCC) produced the Hampshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (HLFRMS), Document 3 – Action Plan. This ranked various sites in the county according to flood risk based on, amongst other things, groundwater and the Environment Agency (EA) Flood Map for Surface Water. **Copythorne South (which includes Copythorne village)** received a High ranking with the sixth highest risk in the county for groundwater and 52<sup>nd</sup> for the EA Flood Map.*

*In accordance with this ranking, a specific action plan was detailed in the HLFRMS for Copythorne South. The action plan covered the ward of Ashurst, Copythorne South and Netley Marsh, and identified historic flood activity as well as measures already taken to reduce risk, and future plans. The action plan highlighted the role of the County Council, Southern Water, Environment Agency, District Council and residents.”*

**Can you please confirm that Copythorne Village, which is the clear focus of this report, DOES NOT reside within Copythorne South but is, as a matter of indisputable fact, within the Copythorne North ward?**

3. Again in section 2.1 Lead Local Flood Authority, Hampshire County Council, on page 6 the following statement is also made:

*“In November 2012<sup>2</sup>, Hampshire County Council (HCC) presented an update on the consultation on local flooding issues at Copythorne Parish Council’s planning meeting. Minutes from this meeting indicate a discussion on HCC’s planned Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and the responsibility of the County Council as the lead authority for managing local flood risk.*

*2 13 November 2012 – Planning Meeting”*

The following is an abstract from the minutes of this Copythorne Parish Council meeting (held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012):

*"96. HAVE YOUR SAY ON FLOODING IN HAMPSHIRE*

*Pete Errington, Strategic Planning Manager Hampshire County Council, gave a presentation on the consultation on local flooding issues. County Councils and Unitary Authorities were now the lead authorities for managing local flood risks in their respective areas. Their duties included investigating significant flooding events, compiling a register of publicly-owned flood risk assets and preparing a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. There were no additional resources for these responsibilities and HCC would be reliant on external grant funding. **The new strategy would therefore be the basis for future funding bids and the focus would be on preparing detailed action plans for the top 20 highest risk areas in the county. In this context, Copythorne South Ward was rated 8th and Copythorne North Ward 163rd.** The aim was to adopt the new strategy early in 2013 but much ongoing work was required to update flood plans etc. In this respect the co-operation of the Environment Agency was needed to compile the information. Councillor Mans offered to assist in this exercise."*

**Can you please confirm that Copythorne Village, which is located within Copythorne North, should not be the focus of this report and the clear concentration of this report should be Bartley Village, which is located within the Copythorne South Ward?**

4. Within the Executive Summary on page ii, is the opening bullet point:

*"This investigation of the village of Copythorne was undertaken by Hampshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority to understand the flood event that occurred in 2013-14 and relevant historic occurrences, review actions taken since 2013-14; and consider what, if any, further actions may be required to address residual flood risk"*

The government introduced a flood award scheme that enabled any property owner or group of property owners to apply for a flood resilience grant for which they had to prove that they were flooded internally within a habitable area as a result of the 2013-14 flood event. Flooding in gardens and outbuildings only did not qualify for a grant. This scheme was administered, locally, by New Forest District Council. **The parish of Copythorne received 18 of the 59 grants awarded in the whole of the NFDC area, some 30.5%.** To the best of my knowledge **this distribution was 15 in the South Ward and 3 in the North Ward**, a 80% - 20% split. I have full details of most of the grants awarded but I request that you will independently check these details.

**Can you please confirm that the details related to flood grants awarded as a result of the 2013-14 flooding have been verified and will be included in any future update of the report?**

5. I have, in past correspondence, mentioned the Bartley flood relief scheme report, to inform you of the historic flooding details for Bartley. A copy of the abbreviated DEFRA report, as received following a Freedom of Information request to NFDC on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2005, is appended to this report. The Executive Summary/Recommendations states:

***"In recent years 28 properties within the Bartley Village watercourse catchment have been flooded internally and a further 40 have been affected by external/garden flooding during rainfall events with return periods of less than five years. More extreme events will cause more flooding.***

*The area affected by most flooding falls within land use band B. It is reasonable to try to provide protection for a storm with a return period of 75 years.*

*Options for alleviating the problem are as follows:*

- *The “Do Nothing” option has been considered but is unacceptable.*
- *The “Ongoing Maintenance” option would not make a material difference to the existing inadequacies of the present drainage system and has therefore been discounted.*
- *It is therefore considered that to provide the protection necessary to prevent flooding of property, a scheme be implemented in the form of either flood storage and/or attenuation.*

*The recommended option is the provision of flood storage areas on the branch network upstream of the Village, with partial offline attenuation of the flows arriving at the sensitive areas downstream.”*

To date the unacceptable “Do Nothing” option has, by default, been accepted by the competent authorities. Of even more concern is the destruction of all the survey and other data that was collected, at considerable time and expense to the public purse, in connection with this proposal.

**Can you please confirm that the details contained with the Bartley flood relief scheme report are accepted and will be used to inform any further investigations that are undertaken?**

6. I had, even before the flood event that occurred during the winter period 2013-14, collected an extensive library of information which can be made available to you if you are considering revising the details within your report.

As an example - and there are many others - I have condensed the presentation I gave at the Annual Copythorne Parish Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and attach it for your general information. With your limited consideration of the village of Copythorne, without encompassing the wider catchment area, you fail to identify the true problem, being the diameter of the culvert under the M27 motorway. This has been exacerbated by the fill material deposited just upstream on the then named Copperfields (now Paddock View) site. The following two reports are extremely useful in understanding the overall situation:

- Pollards Moor, Copythorne - FRMDM preliminary observations on flood risk - report compiled by Julian Pillans, dated 04/08/2011; and
- Pollards Moor, Copythorne - Stage 2: FRMDM evaluation of flood risk at Pollards Moor - report compiled by Julian Pillans, dated 19/08/2011.

**Are you aware of the two reports produced by Julian Pillans from the Environment Agency noted above or do you want me to send you a copy of each?**

7. Within Section 2.5 of the report New Forest National Park Authority, on pages 9 and 10 reference is made to a presentation made to the NFNPA in April 2014. As a matter of record this presentation was made by Wesley Jones who met with me later in the year to update his records so that the later presentation to the NFNPA was able to present more accurate details.

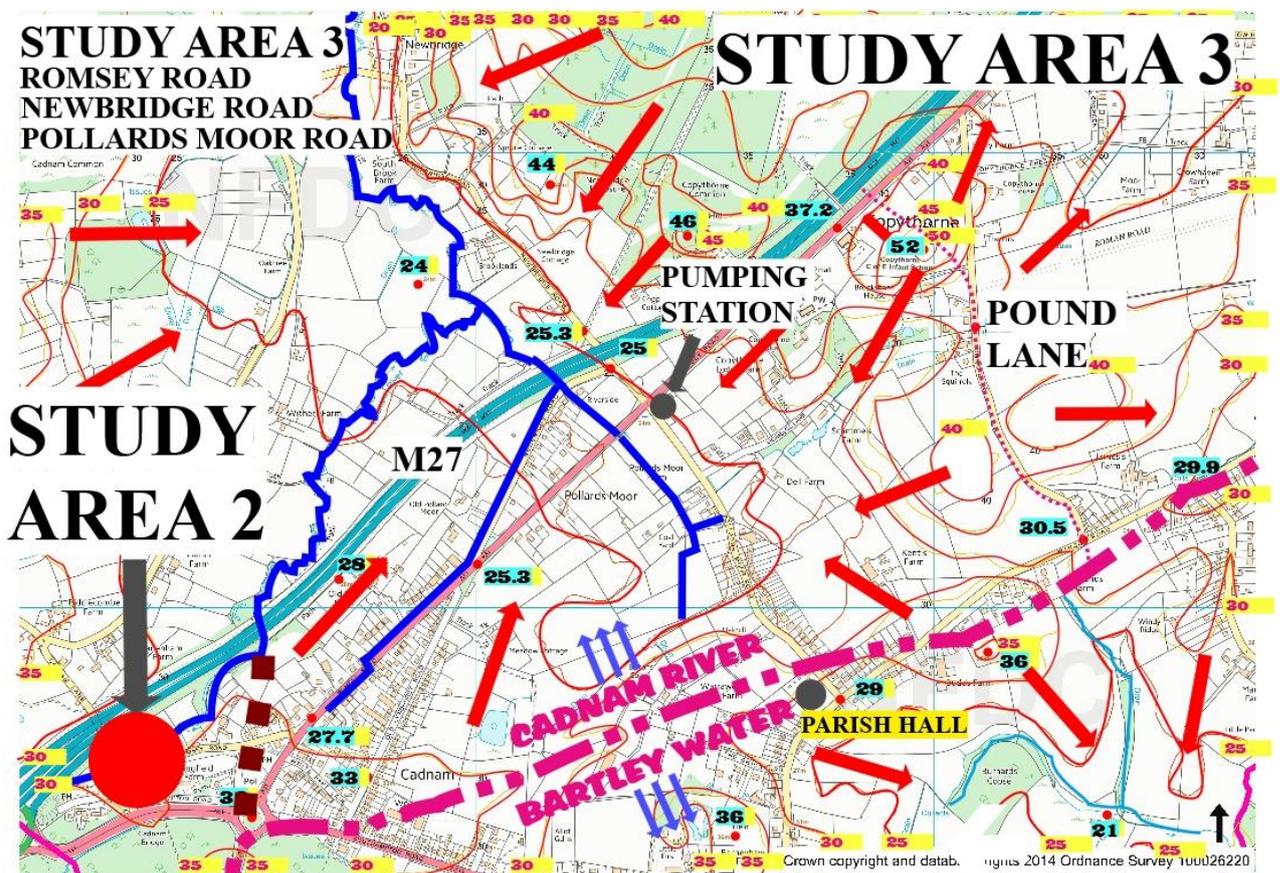
**Do you want more clarification of the details given to the EA following their initial presentation to the NFNPA?**

8. Much of the information that is covered in Section 3 Site assessment has been covered in the past with colleagues in your organisation. It would, in my opinion, be best to meet to discuss how to proceed on these highway matters as I believe that they distract from the core issues of the flood risk in Copythorne Parish.

**Do you wish to involve the Parish Council in your continuing investigations into flooding in the Parish of Copythorne or are you intending to continue without seeking the benefit of the considerable local knowledge that has been assembled over a long period?**

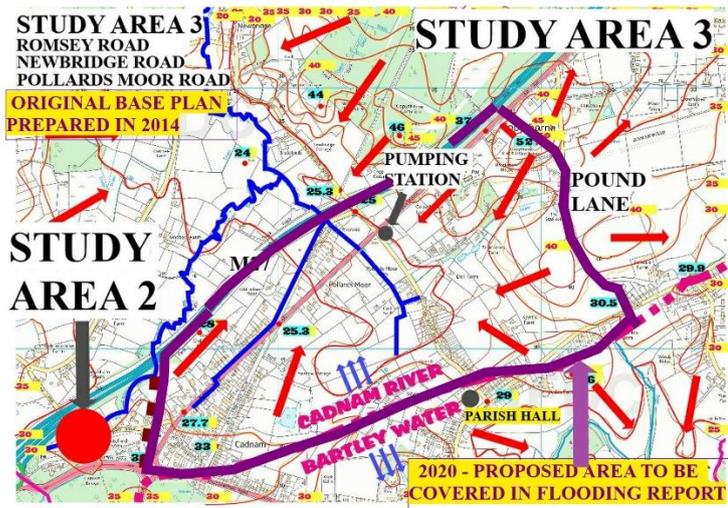
#### 4. Latest Situation

- i) It is now confirmed and accepted that a further report will cover the Bartley area and so the focus of this report is related to the flooding around Pollards Moor Road and Romsey Road.
- ii) This area has only one available surface water outfall eventually being the culvert under the M27 Motorway, the upstream end being opposite the property know as Riverside in Newbridge Road.
- iii) This is clearly illustrated from the following slide, prepare in 2014, to assist in several flooding presentations made in that year.



- iv) It seems perverse to exclude what, on further investigation by the LLFA, could be the source of the flooding problem - that being the downstream main river elements from the Pollards Moor Road/ Romsey Road junction area.
- v) It is considered, in order to identify any problems, if any exist, necessary to consider the whole catchment area which would extend the study area to encompass East Cadnam as well as the majority of Copythorne Village.

- vi) The slide below is an update of the previous slide to clearly show the whole of the surface water catchment area that eventually, under flood conditions, would need to pass through the culvert under the M27 Motorway.



- vii) By considering the complete catchment area information can be included in the next update of the report on the role of the following additional organisations:
- Highways England – responsible for the culvert under the motorway and the upstream trash screen and downstream pollution control device (PCD).
  - Southern Water – in respect of the operational resilience of the pumping station in flood conditions.

This report has been circulated to all members of the Flooding Advisory Committee and has been unanimously approved for presentation to this meeting.

## 5. Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Parish Council resolve:

- 1) to receive this report,
- 2) to request that Hampshire County Council in their role as Lead Local Flood Authority consider extending the scope and coverage of the current draft of Copythorne Village – Flood Risk and Coastal Defence Investigation Report to cover the surface water catchment area whose approximate boundaries are:
  - West: From the Cadnam roundabout to the M27 motorway;
  - North: The M27
  - East: Pound Lane, and
  - South: The Cadnam roundabout to Parish Hall and then Winsor Road to Pound Lane, and
- 3) to continue to offer HCC our continuing support in the preparation of this report.

**Prepared by John Goodwin and issued 6th January 2020**