

Notes of Meeting



TITLE: Prestwick Strategic Drainage Project: Stakeholder Group Meeting

LOCATION: Scottish Water Offices, Prestwick

DATE: Friday 31st May 2019

Present:

Kieran Downey (KD)	Scottish Water
Bill Elliot (BE)	Scottish Water
Arshid Karim (AK)	Scottish Water
Lyndsay Close (LC)	Scottish Water
Martin Hagen (MH)	Scottish Water
John Scott (JS)	MSP
Dr Philippa Whitford (PW)	MP
Ian Cochrane (IC)	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
Derek Hart (DH)	Prestwick North Community Council
John Park (JP)	Prestwick South Community Council
Stewart Turner (ST)	Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Scott Greig (SG)	Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Fiona Mullen (FM)	South Ayrshire Council
Sid Brierley (SB)	P-RAAF
Stuart Wilson (SW)	P-RAAF
Kris Elder (KE)	ARC
Fraser May (FMa)	ARC

ACTION LOG:

Item	Action	Owner
1	Scottish Water to circulate information in relation to the fourteen flooding areas identified as part of the Strategic Drainage Project.	Scottish Water
2	Stakeholders to collate feedback on the fourteen flooding areas and submit to Scottish Water for review	All
3	Fiona Mullen to check the environmental register in relation to Main Street properties in Area 7.	Fiona Mullen
4	Scottish Water, working with Ayrshire Roads Alliance, to investigate speed tables on streets adjacent to Ayr Road as an option to alleviate flooding.	Scottish Water / Ayrshire Roads Alliance
5	The land behind Brandon Gardens to be considered as a potential storage option.	Scottish Water

MEETING NOTES:

Item	Discussion
1	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Attendees welcomed by the Chair (John Scott) and introductions made.</p> <p>JS outlined the two main areas of discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Flooding at Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road2. Wider flooding issues in Prestwick <p>JS confirmed with the stakeholder group that the minutes of the previous meeting (18th January 2019) could be accepted.</p>
2	<p>Purpose of Meeting</p> <p>BE outlined that the purpose of the meeting was to engage key stakeholders in the Strategic Drainage Project, provide updates and invite feedback.</p>
3	<p>Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road Flooding Project</p> <p>Status update:</p> <p>KD outlined that Scottish Water do not have any imminent plans to demolish the house purchased on Brandon Gardens. It was outlined that the purchase of this house was a private agreement between Scottish Water and the homeowner.</p> <p>Concerns were raised by both SB and DH in relation to the house purchase and the fact that residents and the stakeholder group had not been made aware of Scottish Water's intentions in relation to the house on Brandon Gardens. BE explained that due to GDPR and advice from the legal team, Scottish Water was prevented from disclosing information in relation to the private negotiations with the homeowner.</p> <p>DH asked why the homeowners on Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road were selected and why Scottish Water did not attempt to buy the land for sale behind the property on Brandon Gardens. KD outlined that these homeowners were approached as they were at the highest risk of flooding and the purchase of these properties would support with the development of a strategic solution.</p> <p>KD raised a point about GDPR outlining that the information being dealt with needs to be strictly controlled and all information, particularly that of a personal nature e.g. specific addresses, names, etc., discussed as part of this meeting should be considered confidential.</p> <p>KD presented a high level overview of the Prestwick network.</p> <p>Overview of recent residents meeting:</p> <p>KD presented the slides that were used at the residents meeting on 12th March 2019. It was outlined that the purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road and an update on the Strategic Drainage Project.</p> <p>PW questioned if rain water could be separated from the foul water to make it easier to discharge the water to a watercourse. KD stated this is something that would require SEPA's</p>

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	<p>consent and that due to the majority of the system being combined in Prestwick this would be a difficult thing to do.</p> <p>IC highlighted that he attended a sustainable surface water conference. At the conference there was discussion around housing areas planting avenues of trees within large empty boxes with membranes on top allowing water to dissipate slowly. KD stated this was something that could be considered but would need the buy in of residents and/or the Local Authority to make it viable.</p> <p>SB stated that Scottish Water’s offer to purchase properties at Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road was not consistent with the fact that Scottish Water have outlined that properties cannot be purchased simply to remove them from the flooding register.</p> <p>DH stated that SW did not seem to know what they were doing and that stakeholders were not being provided with the full facts.</p> <p>BE reiterated the GDPR constraints placed on Scottish Water discussed earlier. KD stated that this might appear to some that Scottish Water is wilfully withholding information when in fact we are only acting as legally required to do so.</p> <p>JS highlighted that it should be noted that residents are not in favour of the demolition of the Brandon Garden property.</p> <p>DH asked if the property at Brandon Gardens will still remain on the flooding register and KD confirmed it has and would.</p> <p>DH and PW expressed a concern that if the property at Brandon Gardens is demolished then an open sewer will be created and that this would devalue the properties in the area. PW suggested it would be better if storm water was retained and foul water removed. KD stated that doing that would be complex, quite disruptive and costly, and would not materially reduce the flood risk.</p> <p>KD stated that Scottish Water will be maintaining and looking at security at the Brandon Gardens property. It was also stated that Scottish Water have not requested planning permission to demolish the Brandon Gardens property and that this was not something that was being looked at currently.</p> <p>KD stated that it was Scottish Water’s desire to reduce flood risk at Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road and that work has been continuing to do this since the last meeting.</p> <p>Next steps and timeline:</p> <p>KD explained the current options that are being investigated and the challenges associated with these. It was outlined that all options considered would need to fit with the wider strategy for Prestwick. KD confirmed that the timeframe for the next meeting is late-August/September.</p>
4	<p>Prestwick Strategic Drainage Project</p> <p>Status update, overview of scoping progress and survey scope:</p>

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	<p>MH presented slides outlining the proposal for the Strategic Drainage Project. It was explained that the scoping stage has now been undertaken and Scottish Water are now looking to carry out survey work. The survey work will be used to update the hydraulic model to improve accuracy and once this has been completed a hydraulic review will take place. A long list of options will then be considered and reduced to a short list of options for consideration. This will then be followed by costing of the short listed options to identify a preferred option.</p>
5	<p>Prestwick Strategic Drainage Project</p> <p>Prioritisation of flooding areas:</p> <p>MH explained that fourteen areas have been identified where Scottish Water understand there are flooding issues. It was outlined that Scottish Water would like to get stakeholder feedback on the fourteen areas identified to understand priorities and gather additional information. The group consensus was that the best way to gather this feedback is to circulate the information after the meeting for stakeholders to gather feedback from relevant and appropriate parties who can provide valuable information in relation to this.</p> <p>DH highlighted that the main flooding areas are running along the same line - areas 1, 2, 5 and 7. DH outlined that he was aware of pipes damaged by trees here. KD explained that the tree roots have been removed and appropriate periodic maintenance activity will be undertaken to manage this.</p> <p>DH asked why Scottish Water couldn't upsize pipes rather than investigating smaller improvements. KD outlined such a solution had been previously investigated and had been costed in the region of £26 million due to the need to upsize all the way to the downstream pumping station and potentially beyond. This was not an attractive or viable option.</p> <p>JP raised concerns about the risk of flooding to Ayr Road if the proposed action (speed tables) is taken to address flooding at Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road. KD outlined that Scottish Water and the Ayrshire Roads Alliance are working together to reduce flooding and that speed tables is one intervention measure of several being considered. Further technical work is required to ensure that this proposed action is feasible and that it will not have a material or unacceptable detrimental impact elsewhere.</p> <p>SB outlined that he felt there would be little resistance to speed tables if they were strategically placed. There was positive feedback from the stakeholder group in relation to the installation of speed tables.</p> <p>SB highlighted that environmental health have been involved with Main Street properties in Area 7. FM to check the environmental register.</p> <p>AK emphasised how useful it would be to have evidence of flooding in the fourteen areas discussed and encouraged all stakeholders to submit any evidence they had.</p>
6	<p>Prestwick Strategic Drainage Project</p> <p>Next steps and timeline:</p>

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	<p data-bbox="326 176 1352 321">JS asked if everyone was happy with the programme and timelines to which there were no objections. DH highlighted the importance of openness if we are going to work together. BE reiterated the GDPR point previously discussed. PW highlighted that it would have been good to have been made aware of the house purchase in principle.</p> <p data-bbox="326 354 1352 422">JS asked if the stakeholder group would be open to creating an open pond in the land at the rear of Brandon Gardens and there was support for a depression in the ground.</p> <p data-bbox="326 455 1081 485">JS provided a summary of the key pieces of work now to take place:</p> <ol data-bbox="370 491 1352 621" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="370 491 1352 552">1. Scottish Water, working with Ayrshire Roads Alliance, to investigate speed tables on streets adjacent to Ayr Road as an option to alleviate flooding.<li data-bbox="370 558 1325 588">2. The land behind Brandon Gardens to be considered as a potential storage option.<li data-bbox="370 594 1198 621">3. Scottish Water to continue progressing the Strategic Drainage Project.