

Item 17 – Written Member Questions from Lavinia Sealy.

Question from County Councillor Mrs Sealy

What has been done since the last floods in 2007 (in Chobham) to try to prevent the flooding of the roads. (and houses) - in the High St, Bagshot Rd near the fire station and Town Mill, Chertsey Rd (A319), Scotts Grove and Guildford Rd, Station Rd, Sandpit Hall Rd, and Philpot Lane. Please give details of highways work and work done by Land drainage authority and EA.

Reply from Mr Ian Haller, Local Highways Manager

For 2008/09 the Local Committee allocated a total of £98,000 from its devolved budgets for additional drainage works in the Borough. This is in addition to routine drainage work, which is funded centrally, i.e. the annual gully cleanse. Local funds are used to undertake the investigation and the repair of highway drainage infrastructure, which has been identified as defective or subsequently found to be damaged. In respect of works in Chobham the following have been undertaken, by Surrey Highways, since flooding in 2007.

- Windsor Road near Post Office – Renewed Highway drain due to damage.
- Red Lion Road j/w Windsor Road – Removed jammed manhole cover & cleaned.
- Ditching work in Castle Grove Road, Scotts Grove Road and Station Road.
- Chertsey Road o/p No. 84 – Replaced damaged gully
- High Street j/w Station Road (mini roundabout) – Replaced 2 jammed manhole covers, renewed gully connection, cleaned & jetted system.
- Old Chertsey Road o/s Fishpool Cottage – Jetted blocked gully.
- Windsor Road o/s No. 89 – Jetted & cleaned highway drain.
- High Street o/s No. 102 – Cleaned gully and jetted system.
- Chertsey Road near. No. 18 – Cleaned & jetted system.
- Side of No 2 Windsor Road (Chertsey Road) – Cleaned & jetted system.
- High Street from No. 71 to Bagshot Road – Cleaned gullies & jetted system.
- Philpot Lane o/s Highfield Cottage – Cleaned & jetted culvert.
- Bagshot Road near Fire Station – Clear but jetted 900mm pipe.
- Castle Grove Road j/w Broadford Lane – Cleaned & jetted gullies & system.
- Scotts Grove Road – Repaired 4 jammed gully covers.
- Windlesham Road - Repaired 1 jammed gully cover.
- Red Lion Road - Repaired 1 jammed gully cover.
- Halebourne Lane - Repaired 1 jammed gully cover.
- Pennypot Lane – Cleaned & rodded pipe under carriageway.
- Pennypot Lane – Cleaned & rodded gully connections.
- Windlesham Road – Re-cut roadside grips x10.
- Station Road – Cleaned & rodded 2 gullies and connections.
- Philpot Lane – Dug out ditch around pipe entrance.
- Mincing Lane – Cleaned & rodded gullies and connections.
- Bagshot Road – Renewed 2 gully covers.
- High Street – Cleaned slot channel drainage channel & connections.

Reply from Mr Wayne Purdon, Surrey Heath Borough Council

Surrey Heath Borough Council is working through a program of attenuation works from the Chobham ridges of which several have been installed over this last financial year.

Other attenuation schemes have been considered with 3rd parties but funding isn't readily available to undertake the works so they will be revisited as soon as possible.

Chobham has historically been subject to widespread flooding which requires extensive work to the rivers and available watercourse networks to cope with the increased demand without risk to property. Surrey Heath is currently exploring opportunities to make applications for government money to provide a flood relief scheme. The full details and extents of these schemes are not fully known as the design works are not complete. Funding possibilities will only be pursued once the scheme design is complete and projected costs calculated. Works are envisaged to include dredging and reprofiling of the river Bourne, additional attenuation areas and reinstatement of a managed flood plain. Further information on the proposals will be available in the near future.

No reply has been received yet from the Environment Agency. Jane Biscombe will forward a reply from the EA to Cllr Sealy when it arrives and bring it to the next appropriate Local Committee meeting.