

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

DATE: 05 SEPTEMBER 2018
 SUBJECT: FLOODING IN CENTRAL BOOKHAM
 DIVISION: BOOKHAM/FETCHAM WEST

PETITION DETAILS:

Provide immediate funding to allow completion of investigations and the implementation of a drainage scheme that resolves the persistent major flooding and subsequent hazard issues in central Bookham

RESPONSE:

Summary: Following the last meeting with the Bookham Flood Action Group on 18 June 2018, SCC's Strategic Network Resilience (SNR) Team have allocated £30k to carry out a full survey of the existing drainage assets and to investigate potential options for reducing flooding in the area. Any options identified are likely to require contributory funding from the community and other agencies, which will be reported through Bookham Flood Action Group.

Background:

SCC are aware of flooding issues in Bookham, particularly in the vicinity of the Crown Pub and "Square-About", and have been looking into the area with Thames Water and Bookham Flood Action Group.

The area has historically suffered from flooding due to its geography/topography because of this, the flood risk, can only ever be managed at best. Previously, SCC commissioned a feasibility study that covered the majority of Bookham. The engineering options identified by this study required an additional £1.1 million contribution from third parties, on top of what might be allocated by the Environment Agency, for only a limited flood risk benefit to properties. This option is no longer being pursued.

Since then we have held discussions and site meetings with residents, Thames Water and other relevant authorities to explore whether a more cost-effective and achievable solution could be identified.

Through these discussions, Bookham Flood Action Group, SCC and Thames Water have determined that although there may be enough surface water drains within the area concerned, the surface water drainage assets have not been fully investigated for many years. This is mainly due to the associated traffic management requiring significant diversions which would be expensive as well as disruptive to the local community.

Following these discussions, SCC has allocated 30k funding and commissioned a full investigation so that Lower Road and Church Road are looked at in more detail. This investigation will comprise of a CCTV survey, jetting and ground penetration radar which will allow us to map the assets in the area and identify any feasible options going forward. The work will be carried out in partnership with Thames Water to ensure we also capture information on the condition of their drainage assets.

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It must be understood that this is the investigation stage and that this does not guarantee a solution or secure funding for any future works. The investigation will be completed this financial year and the results shared with Bookham Flood Action Group.

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee is asked to:

- (i) note the officer's comment.

Contact Officer: