

Kettleburgh Parish Council

Flood Working Group

Progress Report at 10 Jan 2020

Since the 2 significant flooding events of 27 Nov and 15 Dec the Flood Working Group (FWG) have been liaising with the affected households and the relevant authorities. This brief report is to detail the current state of play with respect to the various areas of concern.

Area near the junction of Rectory Rd and The Street

The puddling at this location, caused mainly by flow from a ditch to the north of the rear boundary of The Old School, has mainly been alleviated by the clearance of 2 drains. Rainwater travelling along and down the road from further up Rectory Rd will still cause some puddling in the future.

Properties from Old School House to March House

All these private properties suffered flooding to some degree. It appears that the cause was primarily an inability of a significant quantity of surface water to progress beyond the culvert in “the building plot” following heavy rainfall. This was exacerbated by geysering from a road rainwater gully opposite causing flow across and down The Street. We have maintained a good liaison with the owners, and they in turn with each other. It is believed that future plans are at an early stage to improve the flow rate through the culverts in some of these private properties.

Problems at Junction of The Street, Low Road and Easton Road

Being at the lowest point of The Street, Corner House appears to suffer flooding when the culvert that passes under the road to the watercourse that runs down to the River Deben is incapable of coping with the strongest of flows following significant rainfall.

Authorities Consulted – State of Play

Representatives from Suffolk County Council’s Local Flood Authority have visited the village and been appraised of all the problem areas currently identified. They stated that they would instigate an investigation of the flooding events reported to them under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The County Council’s (Highways) specific responsibility is mainly the road gullies and culverts under the roads. The representatives that visited Kettleburgh promised to contact Suffolk Highways in regard to the inspection of their assets and we await their response.

Main Drainage/Foul Sewers

On the 26th December 2019 water and a bad smell was noted in The Street coming from a manhole immediately adjacent to Low Road at the T-junction. This situation was again noted on the 28th December 2019. Anglian Water (AW) responded well to calls to their emergency line (the first being on the 28th) and visited three times to investigate the problem (foul water from the manhole was flowing across the road into a road gully that drains eventually to the River Deben). This manhole is now known to be an inspection chamber for the rising main that connects the pumping station to the Framlingham Water Treatment Works and the leak is from a cover to an inspection point on the pipe. Anglian Water are now pumping out this chamber on a daily basis whilst they determine their repair strategy.

The Environment Agency (EA) has been contacted by email about this. Their reply states that they had not been contacted by AW but they would contact them. The EA’s incident hotline (0800 80 70 60) was called on Wednesday the 15th January to report this latest flooding incident.

See <http://kettleburgh.onesuffolk.net/community/parish-council/surface-water-snd-foul-water-drainage-in-kettleburgh/> for more information on these events.