

Kettleburgh Parish Council

Notes for Item 4 of the meeting to be held on the 5th December 2019 to discuss the flooding events of the 27th November 2019

Foul sewer system

Background	Document 1	[2010]
Letter from KPC to AW	Document 2	[08 Feb 2008]
Letter from KPC to AW	Document 3	[13 Feb 2009]
Letter from KPC to AW	Document 4	[13 Feb 2009]
Then the hearing	Document 5	[20 May 2010]
Letter from KPC to AW	Document 6	[31 July 2010]
Letter from KPC to AW	Document 7	[02 Aug 2010]
Letter from Dr. Daniel Poulter MP	Document 8	[13 Aug 2010]
Response from AW	Document 9	[18 Aug 2010]
Letter from The Chequers to AW	Document 10	[14 Sept 2010]
Letter to KPC from AW	Document 11	[08 Oct 2010]
Emails BPC to/from KPC	Document 12	[08 Nov 2010]
Email KPC to Cretingham PC	Document 13	[15 Nov 2010]
Email from The Chequers	Document 14	[Dec 2010]
Briefing note from BPC	Document 15	[18 Jan 2011]
Letter from KPC to AW (good news?)	Document 16	[23 Mar 2011]
Letter from AW to KPC	Document 17	[08 April 2011]
Letter from KPC to Hastoe East (something different)	Document 18	[01 April 2013]
Letter from KPC to AW re - the new pumping main	Document 19	[13 Feb 2015]

'The Chequers' garden was cleaned by Anglian Water on Monday 02 December 2019 it took 2 to 3 hours including disinfectant.

Anglian Water's address is Anglian Water, PO Box 4994 Lancing BN11 9AL.

Leaflets provided at the KPC meeting in January 2011 from 'connect right' are still valid and www.connectright.org.uk still exists.

Surface water drainage

Internal Drainage Boards still exist; I contacted the Association of Drainage Authorities and they provided links to the following information –

Internal Drainage Boards are what is known as the lead local flood authority and in their absence this is the county council. In the case of Kettleburgh the River Deben is within the East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board area and the brook/stream running from the culvert under the Easton-Brandeston Road to the river is within their area of responsibility. However, following a telephone conversation with the Operations Engineer for Suffolk it is not clear whether the ES IDB is responsible for the maintenance of this watercourse and I am meeting this Engineer on Monday morning to discuss this further.

In the Absence of an Internal Drainage Board it is Suffolk County Council that is the lead local flood authority For main rivers the risk management authority is the Environment Agency and the part of the River Deben running through Kettleburgh is classed as a main river.

So we can look at our surface water drainage system starting at the River Deben (EA responsibility) then the area within the East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board (responsibility for the brook stream to be discussed on Monday with the IDB), the culvert under the road (responsibility to be determined – SCC?) and then road gullies (SCC Highways responsibility) and ditches and the like within the parish boundary.

In regard to 'ditches and the like' you normally own a watercourse if it runs on or under your land or if it is on the boundary of your land, up to its centre. Property deeds will tell you if this is not the case and deeds should be checked if you're not clear about the ownership.

A watercourse can be a river, a brook, a beck a ditch a stream a leat, a goyle, a rhyne or a culvert.

You have responsibilities for the stretch of watercourse you own often referred to as a "riparian owner" (riparian means 'of or on a river bank')

The Environment Agency document "Living on the edge" has been superseded (we had the 3rd edition and I found the 5th edition on the Water Management Alliance website) by Environment Agency guidance called "Owning a watercourse" which covers responsibilities and rules to follow for watercourses on or near your property and permissions you need to do work around them. This was published on 15 February 2018.

These responsibilities include the following -

calling the Environment Agency [Incident hotline](#) to report:

- flooding
- blockages which could cause flooding to [main rivers](#)
- pollution
- unusual changes in the flow of water
- collapsed or badly damaged banks

You must let water flow naturally.

You may have to remove blockages, fallen trees or overhanging branches from your watercourse, or cut back trees and shrubs on the bank, if they could:

- obstruct or affect a public right of navigation – ask your [navigation authority](#) for advice
- reduce the flow or cause flooding to other landowners' property – you may have to pay damages if they do

You should:

- leave all other trees, branches and shrubs - they can help prevent flooding by varying the shape and flow of the channel, and reduce erosion
- keep any trash screen, weir, mill gate or other structure clear

Don't go inside a culvert. You could get trapped or poisoned by gases. If it needs clearing or repairing contact [your risk management authority](#) (in our case Suffolk County Council) for advice.

You must not pollute the water. Don't throw waste water, chemicals or anything else which could cause pollution on the banks or in the water.

You must [apply to use herbicides within one metre from the top of the bank of the watercourse](#).

Find out how to prevent rainwater carrying topsoil into the watercourse and polluting it in the [Think Soils publication](#).

You should:

- remove litter from the banks
- remove animal carcasses - contact your [local council](#) if you need advice
- not put garden waste, including grass cuttings, on the banks or into the water

You must:

- [not disturb certain species or their habitats](#), including the bed and banks
- [not disturb birds and their nests](#)
- not disturb the spawning or eggs of salmon, trout or other fish
- [prevent invasive species](#) such as japanese knotweed from spreading into the wild or onto neighbours' land

For advice about what you must do if you own a stretch of watercourse, contact your risk management authority (in our case Suffolk County Council).

If it's about:

- a [main river](#), your risk management authority is the [Environment Agency](#)
- any other watercourse, your risk management authority is your [lead local flood authority](#) (either unitary authorities or county councils) or the [internal drainage board](#)

These organisations control work carried out in and around watercourses. They can help you understand what you can and can't do.

You have the right to protect your property from flooding and erosion, but you must:

- [get permissions to build anything in or around the watercourse](#)

- not build anything which could divert water and increase flood risk to other people's property, or you may have to pay damages

Something on your land, such as a wall, may be important to prevent flooding and be listed as a [flood defence asset](#).

You must [ask permission](#) before you:

- change, remove or build any flood defence on your land
- do any work within 8 metres of a flood defence, or within 16 metres of a tidal flood defence

On a [main river](#), the authority is the [Environment Agency](#).

On any other watercourse, the authority will be either your [lead local flood authority](#) or the [internal drainage board](#).

You may be responsible for maintaining and repairing a flood defence on your land. Check with the authority.

When an authority stops maintaining a flood defence on your land

On a [main river](#), find out [what to do if the Environment Agency stops maintaining a flood defence](#).

On any other watercourse, contact your [lead local flood authority](#) or [internal drainage board](#).

Check your flood risk

You can:

- [check your immediate and long-term flood risk](#)
- [sign up to get flood warnings by phone or text](#) if your property is at risk of flooding

Get permission to do work in or around a watercourse

You must find out which permissions and licences you need to maintain, repair, build or remove anything in or around a watercourse. This includes:

- creating or changing a mooring, mill, fence, dam, weir, bridge or culvert
- changing the banks
- removing material from the bed

You're responsible for getting the permissions and licences you need. You may get a fine or go to prison if you don't do this.

Main rivers

Find out if you need to apply for an [environmental permit](#) from the Environment Agency.

On the River Thames you must also [apply for a River Thames accommodation licence](#).

Other watercourses

If your work is in or around any other watercourse, find out if you need permissions and licences from your [lead local flood authority](#) or [internal drainage board](#).

If the tide affects your watercourse

Find out if you need a [marine licence](#) from the Marine Management Organisation.

Culverts

The risk management authorities are unlikely to give you permission to build a culvert - an underground structure that a watercourse can flow through. Culverts can increase flood risk and damage the environment.

Planning permission

Contact your [local planning authority](#) to check whether you need planning permission.

If you need to access other people's land

You must contact other owners and get their permission before you start work.

Other areas covered in this guidance -

Removing water, or building or altering a dam or weir

Work affecting protected areas and species

Deal with waste

Discharging water or effluent

East Anglia: drainage charges

Fishing and boating