

BLEASBY FLOOD ACTION GROUP REPORT FOR BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2025

Thanks to Bleasby PC and to Newark and Sherwood District Council we are pleased to report that two JCB machines arrived Friday 7th February, along with ramps – but lacking connections and rigid hoses. Before they can be used the following need to be addressed: **See** the December FAG report, section 7 (a to f) and attached (Pump Usage Policy)

ACTION

1. Confirm purchase of rigid hoses and connections.
2. Consider, improve and officially adopt the BFAG devised procedures offered.
3. Determine the safe, secure and accessible storage of each of each of three pumps.
4. Investigate the insurance cover for the pumps themselves, the operators of the pumps and the affected residents

We suggest that two pumps could be located on the properties of strategically placed FAG members on Station Road and Main Street where most pluvial flooding occurs and the third in the flood store for use in Gibsmere or as additional support to the first two.

We have been made aware that improvements to ease flooding in Thurgarton will be implemented this spring by increasing the capacity of Thurgarton Beck. The Council will be aware that, for many years, BFAG has considered that improvements to our own flooding risks could be made by re-establishing a very effective principal drain which previously ran along the boundary which divides Bleasby and Thurgarton. Since works in this area are planned it would seem sensible for us to pursue the possibility of combined operations.

ACTION

- Concerted effort by BPC to establish positive cooperative links with adjacent parishes – and especially Fiskerton and Thurgarton, with regard to joint flood management and possibly support cooperation.
- Focus on opportunity to improve our own flooding risk whilst IDB is improving Thurgarton Beck close to our parish boundary.

Background See attached maps to compare increased water carrying expectations now placed on Holme Dyke (our main western drain) since gravel excavation stopped and the open pits were filled with fly-ash from Staythorpe Power Station.

- We now have no less than 3 extra drains feeding our main drain (as well as a lengthened single original drain) and a truncated section of primary drain running on the other side of the parish boundary.
- There can be little doubt that this additional flow of water into the parish may well overload Holme Dyke during heavy and continuous rainfall causing backflow and preventing the escape of excess water from our Station Road drainage system.
- During the gravel extraction process over these western fields the water was pumped out into a specifically created drainage system that ran down the length of the parish boundary, however, subsequent to the restoration of the pits this appropriate and effective drainage was closed off and the additional drains incorporated with a fall towards Holme Dyke.

- If we could redirect at least some of this additional load on Holme Dyke, the sluice gate at the exit of the Station Road might possibly remain open longer, allowing more of our Station Road floodwater to escape and thereby alleviate flood risk to these vulnerable properties.

Action By entering into discussions with Thurgarton Parish Council, the Internal Drainage Board and Notts County Council (the Local Lead Flood Authority) it might be possible to consider a joint remediation/flood amelioration venture whilst significant operations involving significant use of heavy plant are being carried out on Thurgarton Beck, just one field away from a potential flood amelioration solution for Bleasby.