

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
HIGHWAYS FORUM FOR NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE

9TH FEBRUARY 2017

RESPONSE TO PETITION: FLOODING AT JUNCTION OF BATH
LANE AND VIA DEVANA, MOIRA

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT

Purpose of Report

1. To report on the next steps following the presentation of a petition requesting that immediate action to resolve the flooding at the junction of Bath Lane and Via Devana, Moira.

Background

2. Stuart Basford the lead petitioner submitted a petition containing 30 signatures to the County Council on 19th September 2016. The petition reads as follows:

“FLOODING at road junction of Bath Lane and Via Devana, Moira, due to Sewer and Water systems continuously running over capacity. This is as a result of lack of upgrade investment during village expansions.

This petition is for the immediate action to be taken by North West Leicester Council, Severn Trent, Highways and Environment Agency to permanently solve the capacity issue of the Severn Trent and water systems of Via Devana / Bath Lane and of Moira Village. The petition is signed by the residents at Via Devana and Moira Village who are significantly affected by the issue”.

3. This petition is in response to an existing and on-going flooding problem at the junction of Bath Lane and Via Devana, Moira.
4. Leicestershire County Council classifies Bath Lane as ‘4a’ a locally important road, the general description within the Highway Maintenance Policy Strategy details 4a roads as; ‘Routes linking into the main/ secondary distributor network, which are normally C Class Roads and have greater local significance in rural areas, plus heavily trafficked unclassified roads’.
5. Bath Lane is a primary route for the residents of Moira and the only means of vehicular access and egress for the residents of Via Devana, which is compromised whenever flooding occurs. A location plan is provided in Appendix A.

Issues Raised by the Petition

6. The petition requests immediate action by the various risk management authorities involved, including Leicestershire County Council (as Highway Authority).

Response to Issues Raised

7. Leicestershire County Council as Lead local Flood Authority are aware of the flooding at this location and have worked with the community and partner agencies to understand the cause of this flooding. This investigation has included site inspections and community meetings.
8. Combinations of factors influence flooding at this location, including the interaction between the culverted watercourse and Severn Trent's surface water system and Severn Trent's combined sewage system under Bath Lane. The combination of both systems and the presence of the watercourse cause areas of the road to become flooded during significant rainfall events.
9. Leicestershire County Council has requested that Severn Trent Water (STW) update their existing hydrological model to include the existing culverted watercourse. This will help to understand how these systems interact, and would enable potential solutions to be tested within the model prior to implementation on the ground. At the time of writing, STW have yet to commit resources to this work.
10. Though STW have been cooperative in this case, there are other instances across the County where STW have been slow to respond to known flooding issues. LCC recognise this slow response can cause problems for communities, and as such have requested STW to attend a Scrutiny Commission meeting to set out how the utility company is working to ensure it is addressing key capacity issues on their network. This meeting is due to take place on 8th March 2017. Part of this questioning will seek how STW plan to address issues experienced by residents, similar to those experienced by residents of Via Devana. Scrutiny will also ask how they are planning to maintain and upgrade their systems in the future. The meeting agenda and outcome, following the meeting, will be published on the County Council website.
11. Following the results of the model, detailed design can start on a solution, which may also include an upgrade of the Severn Trent Water sewerage system in this area.
12. The County Council has identified that amendments to the culverted watercourse alignment under Bath Lane could help to alleviate the frequency & severity of future flooding occurrences. Although the benefit of this work cannot be fully understood without the hydrological model results, the work is planned for the 2017/2018 financial year.
13. In addition to the above, site inspections have identified a possible partial failure or blockage of drainage pipes further downstream of the Bath Lane culvert, under the adjacent playing fields. The County Council - in liaison with the

riparian landowner - are seeking to clarify the issue, and whether this is related to the Via Devana flooding. This investigation is currently on-going, but if related, then the County Council will seek appropriate remedial action by the riparian landowner.

Next Steps

14. The County Council is already aware of the issues raised within the petition, as well as other nearby issues that may be affecting flooding in this area. These are under investigation. It is anticipated that
- a highway drainage improvement scheme will be implemented during the financial year 2017/18,
 - subject to hydrological model conclusions, and ongoing investigations, STW may consider upgrades to their system.
 - LCC as Lead Local Flood Authority will continue to work with adjacent riparian owners to investigate the possible partial failure or blockage, and seek appropriate remedial action, if required.

Recommendation

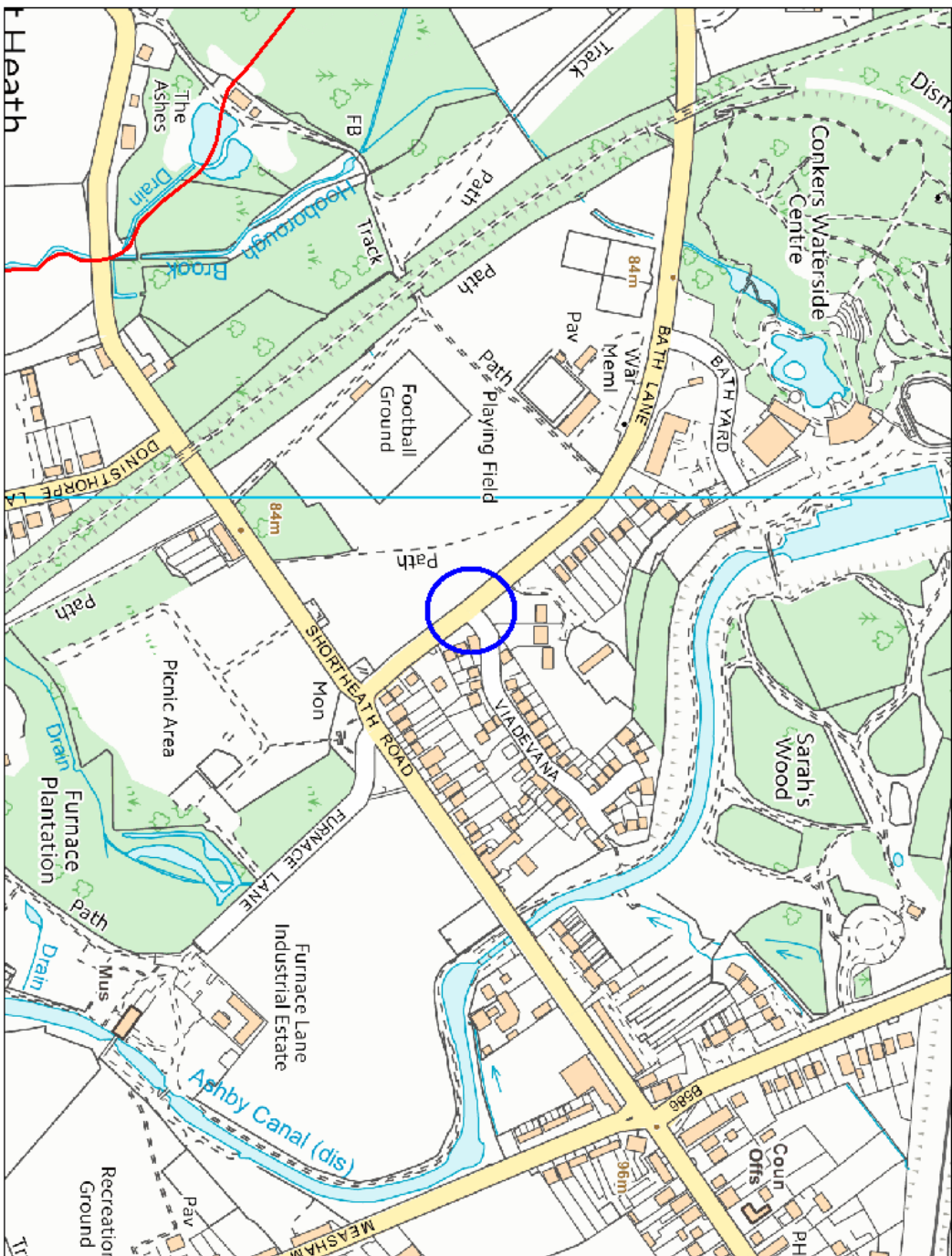
15. That the contents of the report are noted.

Officer to Contact

Bernard Evans Tel: 0116 305 0001
Email: flooding@leics.gov.uk

Background Papers

The petition containing 30 signatures is held on the Chief Executive's Department petition file.



This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Leicestershire County Council LA100019271. Published 2016.

This is not a definitive record, but is based on the best available information and is given without warranty. If roadside ditches are present, the normal presumption is that these do not generally form part of the publicly maintainable highway. This plan has been produced in relation to the specified area of enquiry and should not be used for any other purpose, since its accuracy can not be guaranteed.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government licence v 2.0

This map gives an indication of the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding. It is not suitable for use at an individual property scale due to the method used.



ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE
DIRECTOR

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

SERVICE:
LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY

TITLE:
Location Plan,
Bath Lane / Via Devana

LOCATION:
MOIRA

DRAWING NUMBER

SCALE

2016-INC-009

Not To Scale

CREATED BY: Edwin Knight

DATE: 26/01/2017

E-MAIL: flooding@leics.gov.uk

SIZE: A4

PHONE: 0116 305 0001

COUNTY HALL - GLENFIELD - LEICESTER - LE3 8RJ