Foul Drain overview

Weekly exchanges with Southern Water have now brought confirmation that there is a Sidlesham Drainage Area Plan that includes Itchenor. It does include pumping stations Near Trees, Black Bungalow and the end of Chalkdock Lane. The details of the plan have not been released but I have requested them. They have carried out a complete camera survey of the village to assess where ground water is entering the sewers. However, I think that we will need greater pressure than the Parish Council to get proper engagement with them.

Rainwater overview

Highways have been contacted with a view to increasing culvert sizes and adjusting inverts in 4 locations. (possibly 5). Also regarding the flooding outside Lower Field. They seem very unwilling to act at all quoting the surface water management plan for The Manhood Peninsula.
The Gulleys outside Lower Field that are not working are also being chased through Highways, CDC Environment, and by the owner.

I believe that the Manhood Penisula Surface Water Management Plan issued by WSCC last July does not fully consider the flood issues at Itchenor and must be reviewed.
Positive meeting with farmers are bringing us closer to having a full ditching plan.
I hope to be able to present this in time for the Annual Parish meeting.

IDD Abolition

The **Environment Agency** have now sent a team to review the sea wall, outflow and calculate the water flows through the pond. I have briefed them to come up with some new ideas for the pond to control water levels that look natural but will enable us to convert the marsh to dry land except when in flood. The PC will need to find funding for this to be enacted and will be responsible for it..

Discussions have lead us to believe that the PC should resolve to write to WSCC and the EA formally requesting that the water courses in the flood zone East of Itchenor Road be designated a main river. This process can take up to 2 years but will result in a permanent EA role in managing this area. Professional Engineers will be far better at managing the landowners than either the PC or CDC as is currently proposed after the abolition.

Flood prevention group

We are ready to set this up an looking to confirm members. Jane Reeves has agreed to work with Chris Watson and Myself. We will recruit 2 more.
We have already liaised with Birdham and Earnley and shortly to meet with West Wittering. we now have a list of contractors in order to get quotes for implementation.
Further Operation Watershed funding will be available soon.

Jim Dunn 10.03.16