



KEY POINTS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM BOURNE SUB CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING

19 June 2009

PRESENT:

Prof Gail Taylor (Chair)	-	VCT/University of Southampton
Graham Roberts	-	VCT / H&IOW Wildlife Trust
Nigel Thomas-Childs	-	CSFI
Michael Malyon	-	Riparian Owner
Henry du Val de Beaulieu	-	Apsley Estate / Riparian Owner
William Daniel	-	Famous Fishing
David Bone	-	Southern Water
Alan Marsden	-	SMB Parish Council
Dr Pete Shaw	-	University of Southampton
Peter Evans		

APOLOGIES:

Alison Graham-Smith	-	Natural England
Shirley Medgett	-	EA
Tim Nevard	-	VCT
Richard Sankey		

ACTION POINTS:

Phosphate Research

Pete Shaw outlined his application to the University of Southampton to fund a £60k 3 yr investigation into P sources, speciation and impact upon chalk headwaters of the Test and Itchen.

This would be joint funded by the VCT and an offer of additional support of £5k pa from EA.

WD reported TD of T&I may also add support.

PS to lodge the application detail on the BRI Website.

Action: PS

Road Run-Off

MM reported Hants Highways have constructed a soakaway to mitigate road run off to the Bourne. Funded by EA. HH have agreed to maintain. Also to improve / rebuild further soakaways further up the hill. Also to review kerbing.

NTC advised launch of self-addressed EA wet weather logs to river keepers to capture weather events impacting the rivers.

PS offered MSc resource to collate and analyses data after a year.

Invertebrate Surveys

SDR advised publication of Environ April survey of the Bourne showing increased Gammarus and comment that their population may be competing with other inverts. WD felt unlikely and welcomed abundant Gammarus.

PS advised completion of a 96 sample point survey of 4 habitat types of the upper Bourne. Surveyed invert community composition on silt, gravel, weed and marginal habitats. PS requested to log results on web site **Action: PS**

SDR to ask SM when she will be able to publish EA survey data for Nov 08 and May 09. **Action: SDR**

PS to liaise with SM re definition of ideal Gammarus numbers for the headwaters.
PS to liaise with SM to publish their definition of Good Status for headwaters soonest. **Action: PS**

GT advised VCT has agreed to fund electrofishing of the upper bourne over a 3 yr period to enumerate and characterise populations.
PS outlined methodology...surveys in May/June and November.

Leaking Laterals

DB reported on SW survey of leaking laterals and shared some unpublished images showing ingress of surface water.

Alan Marsden, representing SMB Parish Council, advised all past identified leaks had been repaired. He requested addresses of the latest identified leaks. DB to liaise with EA as to the possibility of releasing this data. **Action: DB**

The Group is concerned leaks into the system in high ground water are leaks out to gravel in low groundwater.

DB advised SW is committed to retaining tankage of excess water from the pumping station but when this is overwhelmed will pursue direct discharge to the Bourne. All agreed the latter is wholly unacceptable.

DB agreed to attend and update at the next meeting.

Action: DB

Environment Agency

GR agreed to raise the issue of the Bourne apparently being classified as “heavily modified” and thus exempt from early compliance with WFD at EA sponsored meeting to review chalk stream status on July 6th.

Action: GR

PE aware of the EA seeking consultants to scope a hydrogeological survey of the upper Bourne...to seek more detail as to the remit.

Action: PE

GR to invite Rod Murchie and or Rob Waring to the next meeting.

Action: GR

GT to propose James Humphries addresses the next VCT Headwaters Forum, to be held 5 October.

Action: GT

Upper Itchen Initiative - GT updated the Group on the Upper Itchen Initiative. WD agreed to ask Anthony Gay to join that Group.

Action: WD

PEITC - PE sought news on CEH PEITC in river measurement. SDR advised work incomplete, but PS is now undertaking same with Mel Dixon.

HdvdB suggested Cllr. Tom Thacker be invited to the next meeting. All agreed.

Action: GT

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 4 November at 2pm at Vitacress Salads, Lower Link Farm