



**KEY POINTS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM  
BOURNE SUB CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING  
22 July 2010**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Prof Gail Taylor (Chair)	-	University of Southampton
	Dr Pete Shaw	-	University of Southampton
	Richard Sankey	-	Piscatorial Society
	Bob Wellard	-	Piscatorial Society
	Bridgett Culley	-	SMB Parish Council (SMPC)
	Peter Evans	-	Adviser to SMB Parish Council
	Emma McSwan *	-	EA
	Graham Roberts	-	VCT / H&IOW Wildlife Trust
	Henry du Val de Beaulieu	-	Apsley Estate / Riparian Owner
	Michael Malyon	-	Riparian Owner
	Dr Steve Rothwell	-	Vitacress Salads/ VCT

<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Alison Graham-Smith	-	Natural England
	Tim Nevard	-	VCT
	William Daniel	-	Famous Fishing
	Tom Davis	-	Test and Itchen Assn
	David Bone	-	Southern Water (SW)
	Shirley Medgett	-	EA

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING OF 4 November 2009**

GT advised she had delayed invitation of Councillor Thacker pending clarification since she missed the last meeting. PE advised this was to secure Council support on highway and Southern water issues.

GT agreed to invite to next meeting

**Action GT**

SR advised an invitation had been declined by Rod Murchie for an EA resources team member to attend due to work load. Agreed to repeat invitation to next meeting.

**Action SR**

EMcS advised no publication to date of EA's 2008 environmental monitoring of the upper Bourne, but stated Iron Bridge showing good recovery, now comparable to West channel, and Island sampling point good and improving.

PE asked if outcome of diatom survey will be included. EMcS thought it would be.  
Future sampling just at Iron Bridge

PE reported on WD behalf a concern re siltation of the Eastern Channel, revealed on weed cutting.

SR undertook to commission Environ for a further survey of the east and west channels to ensure sustained recovery **Action SR**

EMcS advised a review of invert data may raise Bourne classification from Moderate to Good or High ecological status.

EMcS advised merger of Southern and Thames EAs. Colden common office likely to be relocated and regional head office likely to move from Worthing to Reading.

Hydrogeological Report published despite agreement by SM to circulate a draft. Concern this has been published without consultation. SR advised he had also asked that the NFU Watercress Assn be consulted.

No electronic distribution of the report to date has been forthcoming. EMcS agreed to enquire why. **Action EMcS**

Concern expressed that the report had widened to include an ecological remit with which SR advised he had many concerns, some addressed by an addendum.

PE concerned he has not yet seen a copy but understood the remit to be too narrow and limited to a desk top compilation of existing data.

#### **St Mary Bourne Sewer inundation and Southern Water plans**

The meeting reviewed SW's latest proposals. Namely to try to solve the problem of the 14 impacted houses by a specific fix, leaving tankering and over pumping of foul to the Bourne ongoing at times of high ground water.

BC advised the Parish were pleased to see the issue impacting the 14 households addressed but disappointed the wider issues are not being resolved.

SR felt removal of the imperative of houses with blocked toilets will make it harder to force improvement in the overall situation.

PE advised he has clear evidence of the sewer being used as a combined foul and surface facility, despite denial by SW. He advised SW's own bills to households identify a charge for highway surface water drainage to foul and has further evidence of building control allowing roof water to foul installations on a new property.

PE view is that we need to have a proper hydrogeological survey to establish where water is rising / its flow to river blocked and then to direct this clean water to the river, away from the sewer.

RS suggested we have the EA Hydrogeology report reviewed by a hydrogeologist to identify unanswered questions and to then press Southern Water to fund a detailed survey (IRO £200K) to answer them.

PS suggested Derek Clarke of Southampton University and agreed to establish cost which VCT would consider meeting **Action PS**

### **Good Ecological Status**

GT asked if the definition of "Good Ecological Status" could be published for the forthcoming Forum. PS agreed to liaise with Flylife on this. **Action PS**

### **Upper Itchen Initiative**

GR reported good progress and attendance by a wide interest group. Focus had been on impacted Ranunculus – P and Swans likely candidates. Role silted lakes play on P release to upper Itchen of concern.

GR reported recent improved Ranunculus thus making timing of any approach to RSPB ref swan control sensitive.

WWF involved in UII and proving very helpful in governmental lobbying, esp to reduce new build housing pressure. Suggested WWF speak on "rivers on the edge" at Forum.

### **Update on Funding Phosphorus PhD**

GT confirmed the VCT had voted to fund the whole project, est £60 to 70k

PS has completed scoping: investigating source apportionment and bioavailability of phosphorus in upper chalk stream headwaters, focusing primarily on the Bourne and Upper Itchen.

Techniques will allow assessment of bioavailable P in sediments and "fingerprinting" of sediments to identify source.

### **Electro Fishing Update**

PS advised 3 sites selected: VSL new streams; MM's improved reach and an unfished reach in Hurstbourne Priors

Protocol will employ stop nets on 100m reaches with 3 pass depletion method to establish population, scale sampling to establish growth rates. Stomach flush to investigate diet. Will repeat summer and winter for 3 years.

Work will commence early August. PS undertook to e mail results to all attendees shortly afterwards. **Action PS**

### **AOB**

RS asked SR for detail of recent planning application. SR advised this was a resubmission of the 7 or 8 year old application which had been granted but quashed on challenge of the council's process – namely to add docking bays to intake and dispatch; to extend the packhouse roof to cover crates and yard activities (with restriction that the space be restricted to this purpose); to demolish and rebuild the workshop and associated landscaping and lighting improvements. SR advised no change to the packhouse capacity, its output nor its abstraction and discharge of water.

GT asked GR to report on the formation of the Wessex Rivers Trust of which the Hants and IOW WT are partners.

GR advised it is a welcome move to see wider collaboration by the angling stakeholders but felt the challenge is to win the support of the wider population whilst protecting rivers from damaging public intrusion.

PS presented a copy of Mel Dixon's PhD on the remediation of the Gammarus impact below the Vitacress site. He advised e versions will be available once examined in 3 or 4 weeks and hoped 2 or 3 publications would follow.

**Date of next Meeting**

Nov 3 or 10. 2pm Vitacress site.