



**KEY POINTS AND ACTIONS ARISING FROM BOURNE SUB CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING
25th April 2012.**

PRESENT:	Pete Shaw (Chair)	PS	-	University of Southampton
	Steve Rothwell	SR	-	Vitacress Salads
	Tim Nevard	TN	-	VCT
	Shirley Medgett	SM	-	Environmental Agency
	Alison Graham-Smith	AGS	-	Natural England
	Henry du Val de Beaulieu	HVB	-	Apsley Farms
	Michael Malyon	MM	-	Riparian Owner
	Bridget Culley	BC	-	SMB Parish Council (SMPC)
	Bob Wellard	BW	-	Piscatorial Society
	Gwen Isaacs (Minutes)	GI	-	University of Southampton

1. APOLOGIES:	Gail Taylor	GT	-	University of Southampton
	Peter Evans	PE	-	Advisor to SMB Parish Council
	Sarah Lynes	SL	-	Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.
	Tom Davis	TD	-	Test and Itchen Association
	William Daniel	WD	-	Famous Fishing

2. REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 1st February 2012

ACTION Tom Davis (TD) - to draw up some Terms of reference for the work required.

This had not been done yet.

ACTION Gwen Isaacs (GI) - to email TD the Aquaterra Report.

Completed.

ACTION Gail Taylor (GT) - to chase PS for the costings resulting from the work identified in the Aquaterra Report.

This was an agenda item so covered later.

ACTION Pete Shaw (PS) - to give the group an update on Electro fishing.

This was an agenda item so covered later.

ACTION Gail Taylor (GT) - to remind PS to liaise re sampling point.

PS said he would speak to WD after July about using his reach. It would be easier to use this in autumn rather than summer.

ACTION Tim Breslain (TB)

- to find out from Vitacress what is proposed for the road drain and ensure all affected people are notified before work starts
- report back to Vitacress the local riparian owners and others involved should be notified in writing of any forthcoming work on The Bourne.

SR updated the meeting on the situation whereby Simon Cain had been briefed by Vitacress but hadn't liaised with WD or HVB in a timely manner as requested for which SDR apologised.

ACTION Gail Taylor (GT) - to ask PS to report on the scope of this PhD work at the next BRI meeting.

PS reported that work had started. Arthur Leung (PhD student) was in place. The work was now at the implementation stage. They were about to embark on surveying and sampling on the Itchen. The Test and Itchen Association members will be used to widen sampling scope. Mini sampling sets would be given out to volunteers. BW offered help if required. PS said they were setting up the monitoring system and would be in touch. .

There will be intensive hourly studies of phosphorus concentrations in the Test and Itchen involving 96 samples collected from Monday to Friday. One week will be spent on the Itchen, one on the Test. PS suspected that this year wouldn't be typical but will show what happened under extreme conditions. PS said that there was a further MSc research project planned for summer 2012 examining the influence of standing waters on phosphorus in chalk headwaters.

SR suggested looking at phosphorus levels in watercress bed outfalls . PS said that would be useful. It was too late for this year but could be included in Arthur's work.

HVB said that it would be useful to know which of his fertilisers were worse with regard to phosphorus content.

3. ROAD DRAIN AND SILT TRAP

This followed on from the last meeting when the issue of silt trap cleaning regime for the road drain at the bottom of the Harrow Way at Chapmansford (taking the runoff from the HGV/traffic erosion of verges on the road towards Andover/Amesbury) was discussed.

MM reported that the trap was working but who should be maintaining it? BC said the Highways Agency hadn't taken it on. PS said that large vehicles pull in near the Bourne which churn up the mud. MM proposed to fence this area.

HVB said that he had a JCB with which he could clear the trap but he was concerned about how to dispose of the silt once removed.

[ACTION Shirley Medgett \(SM\) - to speak to Environmental Agency about legal requirements of disposal of silt.](#)

[ACTION Alison Graham-Smith \(AGS\) - to speak to Nigel Thomas-Childs to see if there's documentation about the Highways Agency's agreement to maintain the trap.](#)

TN said that the issue of silt traps was also relevant to Vitacress land. SR said they had created a sump into which the road drains now discharge. They empty this regularly and spread over their land.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR HYDROGEOLOGICAL SURVEY/ AQUATERRA REPORT

TD hadn't completed the TOR for the hydrogeological survey yet. PS suggested the meeting consider items 4 and 6 (Review of the Aquaterra report) together.

TN reported that the Aquaterra Report contained many flaws. SR said that the section on ecological surveys was very poor and was surprised SM, the EA expert, had not even been consulted.. The report was in the public domain so the meeting was concerned that any inaccuracies and defects should be corrected.

SM said that the Environment Agency's stance was that they were happy with the report.

SR had produced a critique of the report. The meeting suggested that PS and Derek Clarke DC; University of Southampton) should examine this and produce a response to SR's critique. He will also , identify an MSc student to become involved

The Aquaterra report together with PS and DC's critique should be placed on the VCT website under the BRI heading.

5. HABITAT ENHANCEMENT ON THE BOURNE

WWT were unable to make this meeting but will attend the next one and give a presentation of their findings. The meeting should be at Vitacress offices. The date of the next meeting should be determined by WWT's availability.

6. REVIEW OF THE AQUATERRA REPORT

See 4 above.

7. UPDATE ON ELECTRO FISHING

PS gave an update. Results weren't that much different from last year even though water levels were lower. Many large trout using the woody refuges on MM's beat. Lamprey numbers are up from last year and some very large bullheads found.. No grayling were recorded. Water levels in Testbourne and Itchen are low. PS will circulate the latest report in due course.

[ACTION Pete Shaw \(PS\) - to circulate his report on Electro Fishing after completion of surveys.](#)

PS said that they were in the 4th in a series of 6 electro fishing activities. PS would like to get a few more sites.

MM said there was a mill pond on the Testbourne between his place and HVB's. PS said he thought there was a big piece of research on artificial habitats.

BW offered to share their survey data.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

GI to DOODLE BRI members for a convenient date mid to end June 2012. A date should be selected that is convenient for WWT to come and present. A room at Vitacress offices in St Mary Bourne should be used for the meeting to facilitate power point.

[ACTION Gwen Isaacs \(GI\) - to arrange date for the next BRI meeting.](#)