

# Flood Liaison Group – April 2026

## *Action-focused minutes and key actions*

<b>Meeting</b>	Flood Liaison Group
<b>Date</b>	23 April 2026
<b>Chair</b>	Cllr Buckley
<b>Next meeting</b>	7 July 2026
<b>Purpose of these minutes</b>	Concise summary of matters discussed, decisions noted and actions arising from the meeting transcript.

## Attendees noted in the transcript

**Councillors and parish representatives:** Cllr David Buckley, Cllr Devon Davis, Cllr Mark Howard, Cllr Ewan Larcombe, Cllr Mandy Brar, Cllr Richard Coe, Cllr Andrew Spillane, Jane Dawson, John R Clark and others present.

**Officers and partner organisations:** Ben Crampin, Dan Rice, Artemis Atsalaki-Geropantra, Alice Keeping, Natasha Gibbs and Jonah Maddocks.

## Summary of key points

- No actions were identified outside the existing action plan at the start of the meeting. The action plan was reviewed item by item.
- The ordinary watercourse consent for the Wraysbury drain realignment has been submitted and approved. The next dependency is the landowners' planning application.
- Feathers Lane remains dependent on gaining access to land to survey the relevant chamber. The Council intends to progress notice of entry once highway drainage funding and contractor scheduling are confirmed.
- Several Thames Water matters require escalation. Alice Keeping confirmed she is now the dedicated councillor point of contact and will escalate unresolved information requests and operational issues to senior colleagues.
- Environment Agency updates are awaited on the Datchet/Hythe End flood improvement work, the Crown Estate floodplain system and several site-specific matters.
- Dan Rice presented on ordinary watercourse responsibilities, riparian ownership, and when ordinary watercourse consent is required.
- Parish representatives requested future minutes to be concise and action-oriented rather than long transcripts.

## Decisions and agreements

- Future minutes should be short, action-focused summaries rather than full transcripts.
- The Wraysbury drain and Feathers Lane issues should be separated on the action plan for clearer tracking.

- The Old Windsor wall/weir pier issue should be added to the action plan, with wording to be agreed with Jane Dawson.
- Presentation topics for future meetings should be suggested in advance; Thames Water and Environment Agency presentations were identified as useful future topics.

## Action log

No.	Item	Owner	Action	Timescale / status
1	Wraysbury drain reinstatement	Ben Crampin / RBWM	Seek update from landowners on when the planning application will be submitted. Notify the group once submitted. Include awareness of the refused 2003 application and the issues previously raised.	Ongoing/before July meeting where possible
2	Action plan structure	Ben Crampin	Separate the Wraysbury drain and Feathers Lane matters into separate action plan entries before the July meeting.	Before 7 July 2026
3	Feathers Lane survey	Ben Crampin / RBWM	Once annual highway drainage funding is secured and the contractor date is known, schedule the survey and serve the required seven-day notice of entry. Keep ward and parish councillors updated.	Ongoing
4	Radial weir / key issue	Ben Crampin with Councillor Larcombe and Councillor Andy Spillane	Arrange a site visit to inspect the weir and key issue. Confirm whether the problem is limited to the key or whether further repair is needed.	Next few weeks / before July if possible
5	Datchet/Hythe End flood improvement measures	Environment Agency / Stuart, via Ben Crampin	Provide a further update once the project team has assessed the new government flood funding rules and next steps.	Next few months
6	Datchet common brook maintenance information	Alice Keeping / Thames Water	Escalate internally to senior colleagues and obtain clear information for the group. Alice invited any evidence or comments about lack of support to be shared with her.	By July meeting if possible
7	Crown Estate floodplain system	Ben Crampin / Environment Agency / Stuart	Confirm whether the Crown Estate land remains available and whether the Crown Estate position has changed.	Update requested before or at July meeting
8	Lightlands Lane pumping station EIR / site visit	Ben Crampin / Dick Scarf / Alice Keeping	Ben to ask Dick Scarf to send the EIR request details to Alice. Thames Water to review the request and explore arranging a technical site	Ongoing

			visit to the pumping station.	
9	Neighbourhood plan / NPPG wording	Alice Keeping / Thames Water	Speak with the Thames Water colleague responsible for technical responses to local and neighbourhood plans and provide the requested reference or clarification.	Ongoing
10	Moneyrow Green manhole	Alice Keeping / Thames Water	Obtain a clearer explanation from the operational risk / asset management process once the relevant colleague returns from annual leave, and report back.	By July meeting if possible
11	Bisham / "the Green" works investigation	Artemis / Environment Agency	Review the previous draft response and any original email enquiries; finalise and send the response, noting where matters fall to Highways England/National Highways rather than the EA.	Ongoing
12	Lightlands Lane bund and wet well drainage	Alice Keeping / Thames Water	Review historic photographs and previous responses; speak to relevant operational colleagues and report on current position and next steps.	Ongoing
13	Gloucester Drive / Wraysbury aqueduct	Alice Keeping / Thames Water with Natasha Gibbs	Identify the correct operational owner, review prior EIR references and photographs, and confirm inspections and remedial works required.	Ongoing / urgent concern raised
14	Wraysbury sewer network / sub-pump concerns	Councillor Andy Spillane / Alice Keeping	Provide specific locations to Thames Water so the team can review inspections, maintenance and monitoring arrangements.	Ongoing
15	Watercourse responsibilities presentation	Ben Crampin / Dan Rice	Share the presentation with the group and explore wider communications to residents, particularly riparian owners.	Ongoing
16	Future presentation topics	All group members / Ben Crampin	Send proposed presentation topics to Ben so a forward programme can be developed.	Before future meetings
17	Wraysbury drain parish works	Councillor Andy Spillane / Ben Crampin	Arrange a session in Wraysbury before the July meeting to discuss proposed parish works and whether they should wait until downstream obstructions are addressed.	Before 7 July 2026
18	Old Windsor wall / weir pier issue	Jane Dawson / Ben Crampin / Artemis	Add the issue to the action plan. Jane to send the new EA/asset team contact details to Ben. Ben and Artemis to seek a clearer	Add before July meeting

			response from the relevant EA team.	
19	Water garden / storage schemes	Councillor Mark Howard / Ben Crampin	Ben to provide an offline update on the suggested sites, current funding position and status of any long-list options.	Ongoing
20	River Thames Scheme	Councillor Larcombe / Group	Noted concern that the scheme has not progressed. Councillor Larcombe has written to the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee chair and may receive an update at the next meeting.	For information

## Watercourse responsibilities presentation – key points

- A watercourse includes any channel capable of conveying water, including rivers, streams, ditches, drains, culverts and piped/covered channels, even where they run dry for much of the year.
- Main rivers fall under Environment Agency responsibility; ordinary watercourses are those not designated as main river and are managed locally by the lead local flood authority.
- Riparian owners are generally responsible for the watercourse through or adjacent to their land, including maintaining bed and banks, keeping flows unobstructed, avoiding pollution and managing invasive species.
- RBWM can use powers under the Land Drainage Act 1991, including Section 25 for maintaining flow and Sections 23/24 where works affecting ordinary watercourses require consent or enforcement.
- Ordinary watercourse consent is generally required where works could affect flow, including culverts, bridges, dams, ponds, bank alterations and temporary obstructions within the channel cross-section. The stated fee was £50 per structure.