

# SYKEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019

**Present:** Councillor Mr Lee, Councillor Mr Duckitt,  
Councillor Mr Fox, Councillor Mr Thompson, Councillor Mrs Lifsey &  
Clerk Ms Halsall

DMBC Councillor Austen White & John Gilliver

Residents of the Village.

### ***Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.***

The purpose of the meeting was to help and discuss how to help fishlake and surrounding flooded areas.

Residents put forward their concerns:

In 2007 Bank End House was sandbagged last time, and this has now been concreted to protect, but the brickwork is not looking good.

The flooding came from the River Don and not the River Went.

Councillor Mr Thompson reported - 3 Environment Agency pumps have been in the village pumping into the Went to relieve the flooding on the road. These were in a good position and doing a successful job. Fire & Rescue put temporary pumps in to pump water from Sykehouse main drain into the river Don to relieve it. This was because the main pumps weren't working because of an electrical fault. A pumping station would be helpful as a permanent place in Sykehouse to help when needed in the future.

The Drainage Company, Environment Agency and Emergency services have been doing a very good job around the area at the moment. Future outcomes in meeting with the Drainage Board would be shared with the Parish Council to keep people in touch with their plans for the areas works.

Lack Lustre responses from DMBC with regards to the sandbags.

Some have been dropped on the Green on pallets, but disappeared quickly.

More sandbags were requested. This needs to be better coordinated next time.

Plenty of residents offered help to the residents who were unable to carry or collect any sandbags.

Discussions on the flooding coming from Sheffield took place.

Flood defences are Central Government responsibility.

Managing Rives is Environment Agency responsibility

Doncaster council takes advice from both.

With a 'risk to life' evacuation situation like this DMBC cannot send any employees in to help. This then fell on the emergency services, who did a brilliant job. This has been a National Response and everyone working together. DMBC can now go in and help as the risk level has now dropped.

SIGNED..... DATE.....

# SYKEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

General opinion that Dredging of the River Don was needed and hadn't been done for a number of years.

River Wardens & Flood Wardens are currently out on the River Don and The Went and also the surrounding areas assessing the height of the water. It was reported 2foot of water rose in half an hour.

Councillor Mr Duckitt reported on the 1991 Act about the Environment Agencies responsibilities to looking after Rivers. They had been doing very minimal maintenance and the river was no longer fast flowing out to sea. Councillor Duckitt explained the history of the barrier banks, The River Don and The Went since the 1600's and some of this is still protecting the village today. The impact on high tides after 2 recent full moons. Planting of willow trees some years ago has slowed down the flow to Goole. He felt it would not be the river Went that would flood Sykehouse. This was poor River Management. Letter of complaints were needed as he had been trying for a number of years to stress this point.

The Environment Agency were accused of not turning up to meetings they had been invited to in the past and also refusing to visit any areas of issue. The area now being a topic in the national and local news was a good time to complain to them whilst its is still very fresh. Also contacting any big bodies such as DIY SOS and Panorama TV Programme to highlight this issue.

Councillor Duckitt had put some blue spikes around the village lanes to help with navigating through the flooded roads.

A plan of action was needed/suggested going forward as this kind of flooding may well happen again in the future. A further meeting was requested regarding this.

The Village Hall was offered to help out with Fishlake residents for use as needed and also any further need in future.

It was proposed that Sykehouse Parish Council would donate £1,000 to the funding of flood victims in Fishlake. Clerk to liaise with Fishlake Parish Clerk on who/where to send the money.

Congratulations and thanks went out to residents who were working tirelessly raising funds and helping with needs of the flood victims where possible.

Collection box and raffles were being held to also raise money for Fishlake. A Just Giving page has been set up but this was for all Doncaster flooded villages. As yet it was not known how any monies would be distributed to the needy.

Discussions regarding the tragedy in Fishlake and surround areas continued.

The meeting finish at 8pm

SIGNED..... DATE.....

# SYKEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8pm.

DRAFT

SIGNED..... DATE.....