



COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Flooding Advisory Committee was held at Copythorne Royal British Legion Hall, Southampton Road, Cadnam on Tuesday April 28th 2026 starting at 7pm.

Present:

Members: Cllrs. Sherri Johnstone (Chair) Graham Chillcott, Sylvia Wiggins, Ria Parry-Norton

Observer: Mr. David Rigby – Clerk

Public: Six

A G E N D A (with DRAFT notes of discussions)

1. Public participation session (at the invitation of the Chair)

A member of the public raised concerns about how their comments at the last meeting had been recorded in the notes. At the Chair's request the Clerk confirmed that the notes reflected what was said.

A second member of the public raised concerns that discussions with the Environment Agency and Southern Water regarding a resolution to their flooding issue were still awaited. The Clerk advised that an update would be provided later during the meeting.

A third member of the public reported on a public session presentation they had made at a meeting of another local Parish Council.

2. Apologies for absence.

None.

3. Declarations of Interest.

None

4. Review of notes of previous meeting (January 20th 2026) and any action points.

All voting members present at the last meeting were happy that the notes of the meeting held on January 20th 2026 accurately reflected the discussions.

5. Discussion of matters relating to any Flooding events reported to the Council since the last meeting.

No new issues reported

6. Presentation on the use/introduction of Natural Flood Management methods

By invitation, Peter Hebard (PH) of the Brockenhurst and New Forest Flood Action Group ("BANFFAG") gave a presentation on the work of the group, in particular with regards to the use of Natural Flood Management methods. These methods had been helpful in holding back rainfall upstream of areas known to be prone to fluvial flooding further downstream. He openly admitted that getting bodies like the NFNPA; the Environment Agency; Commoners Defence Association onboard had - at times - not been easy but being able to supply photographic evidence of the source of floods waters and how they built up was a vital first step. In the Brockenhurst area in particular a good number of residents has supplied such evidence.

PH offered his assistance to the Copythorne PC Flooding Advisory Committee ("FAC"). The Chair along with all other members of the FAC gratefully accepted this offer.

PH then held a Q&A session for the benefit of all those present.

He concluded that a letter from the Parish Council supporting the work of the BANFFAG would be helpful in adding more weight to the requests to other public bodies to do more with Natural Flood Management measures in the New Forest.

The Chair thanked him for his presentation.

7. Review of ongoing work programme for the Flooding Advisory Committee

The Chair went through the various elements of this item. The Clerk gave verbal updates which have been added in red to various issues on the report attached for this item.

8. Review of Flooding Advisory Committee requested works programme for the Lengthsman.

Members were reminded by the Clerk of the list of tasks to be performed by the Lengthsman during 2026/27. The Clerk also said that other works permitted under the Lengthsman scheme can be added if a need is identified

9. Discussion of other matters relating to the Aims & Responsibilities of the Flooding Advisory Committee

GC said that the four pipes forming the culvert under "Green Lane" which runs off of Beechwood Road were broken. The Clerk advised that this matter had already been reported to Forestry England and that he would add this matter to the ongoing work programme for the FAC to aid monitoring (see item 7 above).

10. Agree date for next meeting.

Tuesday July 21st 2026, 7pm via Zoom (* see post meeting note below)

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

(* Post meeting, the Clerk was asked by members of the FAC to look into options for holding the next meeting (planned for July 21st) in person).

Coppythorne Parish Council - Flooding AC Meeting – April 28th 2026

Item 4 – Review of notes of previous meeting (January 20th 2026)

A meeting of the Flooding Advisory Committee was held via Zoom Video Conference on Tuesday January 20th 2026 starting at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs. Sherri Johnstone (Chair) Graham Chillcott, Sylvia Wiggins, Ria Parry-Norton
Observer: Mr. David Rigby - Clerk
Public: Three

A G E N D A (with DRAFT notes of discussions)

1. Public participation session (at the invitation of the Chair)

A member of the public raised concerns about the possible additional flooding risk arising from the planned development along New Inn Road and asked whether the Council had any more details regarding the drainage system and also how it's construction would be monitored. These points were noted.

A second member of the public spoke about the piped culvert running through gardens in Shepherds Close as they thought it was blocked again. They also asked if riparian responsibilities letters could be sent to new occupiers of houses along the route of the drain. These points were noted.

The Chair of the meeting reported that comments regarding the current reviews of the NFNPA and NFDC Local Plans and flooding issues within Bartley and Cadnam had been received from a resident. The comments were shared on screen to all those present. The Chair advised those present that the comments and a response from the Council would be added to the Flooding page of the Council's website.

2. Apologies for absence.

None.

3. Declarations of Interest.

None

4. Review of notes of previous meeting (October 7th 2025) and any action points.

All voting members present at the last meeting were happy that the notes of the meeting held on October 7th 2025 accurately reflected the discussions.

5. Discussion of matters relating to Flooding events reported to the Council since the last meeting

The Clerk provided details of flooding that had been reported to him arising from the heavy rainfall that occurred on December 18th 2025 and January 15th 2026 along with additional information supplied during the public participation session. It was agreed to add these details as an additional Appendix (to be known as Appendix D) and titled "Winter 2025/26 Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council" (this has been attached to these notes).

6. Review of Parish Flood Plan for 2026 (consideration of any required updates/changes etc.)

The Clerk advised members that the only required change to the existing Parish Flood Plan was to bring it up to date with membership of this Advisory Committee. This will be done and the Parish Flood Plan 2026 will replace the current version on the Flooding page of the Council website. An article reminding the public about the Parish Flood Plan would be included in the March Parish Council newsletter.

7. Verbal update on working with New Forest Local Association of Councils ("NFALC") & NFNPA to build relationship with Forestry England and other bodies on Flooding matters (GC)

GC reported that the expected presentation to be made by the NFNPA North East Quadrant Parishes to the NFNPA meeting on October 16th 2025 was not added to the agenda by the NFNPA. A route to resolving this is being pursued by both NFALC and the Chair of the North East Quadrant Parishes.

8. Review of ongoing work programme for the Flooding Advisory Committee

The Chair went through the various elements of this item. The Clerk gave verbal updates which have been added in red to various issues on the report attached for this item (along with the new Appendix D (see Item 5 above)).

9. Review of Flooding Advisory Committee requested works programme for the Lengthsman.

Members reviewed and confirmed the list of tasks to be performed by the Lengthsman during 2026/27, noting that other works permitted under the Lengthsman scheme can be added if a need is identified

10. Discussion of other matters relating to the Aims & Responsibilities of the Flooding Advisory Committee.

None.

11. Agree date for next meeting.

Tuesday April 28th 2026, 7pm via Zoom

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Copythorne Parish Council – Flooding AC Meeting – April 28th 2026

Item 7 - Review of ongoing work programme for Flooding AC

Action Number	Description	Task Owner	Start Date	End Date	Current Action	Notes
1	Prepare new Parish Flood Plan for 2026	Cllr. Wiggins (with Clerk as requested by SW)	Q4 2025	Q1 2026	Reviewed 20/1/26,	1/26 - Only changed required was an update to AC members. Revised version added to website
2	Preparation of Schedule of Works on Flood Mitigation by Lengthsman for 2026.	Clerk	Q2 2026		<i>Works listed in the report for Agenda Item 8 will be instructed in Q3 2026</i>	Lengthsman can be tasked to undertake other works within the HCC Lengthsman Scheme remit.
3	Monitor works being undertaken by Authorities in Inspecting Main Rivers and Critical Watercourses	Clerk	July 2023	N/A	Clerk to continue to contact Environment Agency (EA) & National Highways (NH) to obtain details of their inspection regimes and report to Council	NH route inspectors check their drainage assets on a weekly basis. 9/25 – NH confirm an issue at Newbridge culvert resolved and inspections continue. 10/25 – KIV Verge degradation in Newbridge Road area identified by NH
4	Continue to work with HCC Highways regarding 2021 flooding issues in The Parade, Southampton Road area	Cllr. Chillcott to lead	Sep '21	N/A	Requests made of HCC Highways to deal with issues reported in respect of certain Highways assets.	Items listed on Clerks database. No issues at this location for some time. (k.i.v – The issue of connection of roadside drain to field ditch on other side of road still not resolved by HCC)
5	Respond to new Flooding issues in Parish as they arise.	All	July 2023	N/A	Watching brief	

6	Specific Drainage Issues	All	Jan' '21	Tba	Clerk to continue to monitor live events and report to Council	a. Barrow Hill Road, surface water flooding and drainage issues. RR letters sent out by HCC on 9/2/21. GC has spoken to Historic England re Barrows in paddock. Ditches & culvert cleared Autumn 2025. 28/4/26– Remove b. Kewlake Lane into Cadnam Lane 5/24 - Works undertaken by HCC to jet drain which flows into ditch then field. Watching brief, no reported issues since. 28/4/26 - Remove
7	Winter 2023/24 Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council	All members	Feb 2024		Ongoing - Appendix of locations known to be affected attached.	See Appendix A attached below (1 issue remains)
8	Autumn 2024 Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council	All members	Sep 2024		Ongoing – Appendix of locations known to be affected	See Appendix B attached below (4 issues remain)
9	Winter 2024/25 Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council	All members	Jan 2025		Ongoing work – List of locations known to be affected attached as an appendix	See Appendix C attached below (5 issues remain)
10	Winter 2025/26 Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council	All members	Jan 2026		Ongoing work – List of locations known to be affected attached as an appendix	See Appendix D attached below (5 issues remain)
11.	Broken Culvert pipes (Green Ln off Beechwood Road	Clerk	Apr 2026		Issue reported to Forestry England as needing repair	

Last Updated – Clerk – April 28th 2026

**Appendix A for Action 7 to Item 7 - Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council – Winter 2023/24
(Remaining items)**

Location	Issue	Actions/Possible Solution	Note
2 houses Old Romsey Road	Fluvial Flooding	Speak to EA	Drains and river issues discussed with EA on June 27 th 2024. 3/25 Discussions commenced with EA re use of Natural Flood Risk Management (“NFM”) for Cadnam River. 4/26– Discussions re NFM are ongoing.

Last Updated – Clerk – April 28th 2026

**Appendix B for Action 8 to Item 7 - Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council – Autumn 2024
(Remaining Items)**

Location	Issue	Actions/Possible Solution	Note
Culvert under the road east of the SW Pumping Station in Barrow Hill Road	Vegetation is being caught up on cable duct/pipes running across the stream causing water to back up in the ditch on the southern side of Barrow Hill Road. Local resident also concerned about a perceived increase in the lean of the white railings.	Having previously tried to contact the owner of the land to the northern side of the road at his point without success, the Clerk is working to identify and contact owners of the various services pipes and duct. Also to discuss with HCC FWM Team who can do work if landowner cannot be traced.	Once ownership of pipes is confirmed relevant utilities will be contacted to see what help they can offer. HCC will also be asked for guidance on whether the Lengthsman is allowed to work on privately owned land. 3/25 – Debris continues to be cleared, railings repaired. 04/26 - Work to identify pipe ownership still ongoing.
Riverside Close, Bartley	Surface water not draining away due to blockage within drainage system		1/25 – Issue didn't arise during last heavy rainfall weekend of Jan 4/5 2025. Continue to monitor. 6/25 – Appears fixed 1/26 – No issues in western end consider removal. See Appendix D re eastern end.
Winsor Road, between school and Pollards Moor Road	Long standing issue with drainage network in this location which returns after heavy rainfall	Working with HCC and the school to ensure a long term solution is found. CCTV and radar Investigation work has been carried out.	1/25 – HCC Highways works now completed. 12/25 - No issues noted during recent heavy rainfall Continue to monitor. 1/26 – Work underway to pipe ditch on eastern side. Completed
Flooding in Chinham Road/ Beechwood Road	Surface water unable to be contained within the drainage system after heavy rainfall.	HCC Highways undertook drain cleansing and asset inspection in November 2024.	HCC Highways will undertaker gully cleaning on a annual basis. Monitor gullies after rainfall and report as soon as issues appear.

			12/24 – The November 2024 inspection of part of Chinham Road highlighted a number of issues that HCC Highways need to discuss with other bodies. 3/25 – HCC Highways have undertaken further investigations and some works. A number of catch pit gullies/weir kerbs discovered on the northern side of Chinham Road to west of “poultry houses”. It is possible that a new drainage line may be installed. 5/25 – New drainage line installed under road surface near junction with Shepherds Road. Further works possible. 1/26 – See appendix D re Dec 2025/Jan 2026 issues 4/26 – Clerk to seek information from HCC Highways as to where water is meant to go and in what direction at this location.
--	--	--	---

Last Updated – Clerk – April 28th 2026

**Appendix C for Action 9 to Item 7 - Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council – Winter 2024/25
(Remaining Items)**

Location	Issue	Actions/Possible Solution	Note
1 house Romsey Road	Surface water/highways drains	Problem with drains resulting in regular property flooding – HCC Highway investigation ongoing. Resident remains in direct contact with HCC.	Moved from Winter 2023/24 list. 3/25 – HCC Highways surveyed and clean their drainage assets to try and establish the issues. RR letters issued to all houses along Romsey Road below Splitwind Pond. 5/25 – Further surveys identified defects that HCC Highways advised need repairing. 9/25 - Work undertaken by resident. 1/26 - HCC Highways investigations continue. 4/26 Resident impacted continues to chase HCC
Shepherds Road, Bartley (opposite side of the road near Shepherds Close).	Standing water across the width of the road on Jan 5 th 2025 (and previously on Oct 8th 2024) not entering into the HCC drainage system	Following end of rainfall, the water had dissipated by the evening on both occasions.	3/25 - HCC Highways carried out investigations and will be arranging further works as a result. New pipe from southern side of Shepherds Road to northern side to take water under road and into existing pipe into Bartley Water to be installed. Grips cut into ditch. Lengthsman to clear ditch and access to a gully pipe. 5/25 – New pipe detailed above installed 9/25 seems to be working. 1/26 – No issues seen

Bridge/Culvert under Shepherds Road (near junction with Chinham Road)	Width of culvert pipes restrict flow of water which leads to water overflowing into Shepherds Road and Chinham Road	Bridge/culvert is the responsibility of HCC Highways. Clerk to discuss with EA and HCC the possible impact of a fully open gap under the bridge.	3/25 – Four way discussions with HCC Highways/Environment Agency/Forestry England/Clerk regarding the culvert/bridge continuing. Also discussions commenced with EA re use of Natural Flood Risk Management (“NFM”) for Bartley Water. 5/25 – EA advised that changes to the bridge would be an HCC decision but EA would need to approve. Unlikely to be beneficial and may impact further down. Not to be progressed. 9/25 Discussions re NFM continue. 10/25 – FE have cut back vegetation in channel. 4/26 – Discussions re NFM continue.
Chinham Road (properties adjoining Bartley Water)	Overhanging trees and possibly other objects in the channel impacting flow	Clerk – To discuss impact of a known issue with EA. Clerk – To send RR Letters to all relevant properties.	3/25 – Tree cut. RR letters issued and a few more to follow to owners of adjoining land. 3/25 – HCC Highways have undertaken further investigations and some works. A number of catch pit gullies/weir kerbs discovered on the northern side of Chinham Road to west of “poultry houses”. 9/25 – New drainage pipe installed 5/25 seems to be working.

Pollards Moor Road (at pumping station end)	Following rainfall footpath often remain flooded which impacts on pedestrians.	Contact HCC once again to discuss background to this issue and possible options for resolution.	Water from land (in private ownership) beyond footpath may well be at least part of the issue. 3/25 – HCC Highways chasing landowners. Further update promised by HCC. 2/26 -HCC Highways continue to be chased. 4/26 – HCC Highways chased again.
---	--	---	--

Last Updated – Clerk – April 28th 2026

Appendix D for Action 7 to Item 7 - Property Flooding Known/Reported to Parish Council – Winter 2025/26

Location	Issue	Actions/Possible Solution	Note
Lower end of Shepherds Close	Issues with the culverted drain running through gardens report by a resident to be blocked	No residents of affected houses have reported this issue to the Council.	20/1/26 – Clerk to contact residents who have previously raised issues at this location. 10/2/26 – Resident confirmed no issues RR letters issued.
Bottom of New Inn Road (western side)	Drains overflow (“manhole” cover lifts) after heavy rain.	Issue was reported to HCC Highways on Dec 5 th 2025	10/12/25 – From HCC:- The issue that you raised has been inspected and works are required. 10/02/26 - Repair to be undertaken as part of planned works 7/4/26 – Update sought
Riverside Close (Eastern end)	Outbuilding and gardens of two properties flooded (Dec 18). Not raised with Clerk until Jan 6 th 2026	Issue reported by both EA and HCC Highways on 13/1/26 once further info obtained from affected resident.	13/1/26 – From HCC:- We have received your enquiry and it will be passed to the appropriate team for further assessment. 16/3/26 - From EA:- Consideration to be given for inclusion in next round of PFR work. 16/4/26 – Discussions with Environment Agency & Southern Water are continuing. 28/4/26 – Online meeting with EA and Southern Water being arranged.
Corner of Chinham Road & Shepherds Road	Road flooded after heavy rain.	Broken weir kerb reported to HCC Highways on 1/9/26 may be partly to blame	15/1/26 – Work was scheduled but further heavy rain on the day prevented this. 16/02/26 – works to be rescheduled 7/4/26 – Update sought. 30/4 – Work due to take place.

Southampton Road (near Cadnam Garage)	Catch pit gully overflowing west along the road.	Issue reported to HCC Highways on 19/12/25	23/ 12/25 – From HCC:- No works required at this time (residents asked to monitor). May be caused by rising ground water. 16/4/26 - Nothing since
---------------------------------------	--	--	---

Last Updated – Clerk – April 28th 2026

Coppythorne Parish Council – Flooding AC Meeting – April 28th 2026

Item 8 – Review of Flooding Advisory Committee requested works programme for the Lengthsman for 2026/27

Task Ref:	Action	Start Date	1 st Milestone	2 nd Milestone	Planned Finish	Actual Finish	Comments
1	Cut back vegetation around the white railings as required. Consider any repainting required (17 sets in 11 locations).	Q3 2026			End Oct 2026		Part of rolling programme of maintenance.
2	Lengthsman to walk all the Main Watercourses and ditches along roads liable to surface water flooding in the Parish and clear or report to Clerk any obstructions found	Q3 2026			End Oct 2026		Checks in previous years for example have included Pound Lane, Barrow Hill Road, Shepherds Road, Brockishill Rd, Beechwood Rd and Bartley Green.
3	Kewlake Lane - Lengthsman to ensure that pipes from “pond” to ditch on opposite side of road and from roadside ditch to field are clear, To include check of ditches in Cadnam Lane and Old Romsey Road in future	Q3 2026			End Oct 2026		(Note:- Clerk now checking minimum once a month when undertaking other parish tasks).

Last Updated – Clerk – April 28th 2026 (no changes made)