

**YAXLEY SEWERAGE  
(Report by the Project and Assets Manager)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on drainage in Yaxley following previous reports to this Panel.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A petition was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) on 5th December 2011 by Parish Councillor Mrs A Rees in respect of sewage overflow at Windsor Road and Main Street, Yaxley.
- 2.2 Following this petition, several meeting and discussions were held with Anglian Water and remedial works were carried out to the sewerage system. These included clearing silt from the surface water sewer in Mere View and a large fat build up in Windsor Road outside the foul pumping station. Both of these restriction / blockages would have caused significant problems and resulted in flooding.
- 2.3 For this reason, both the foul and surface water sewers have now been placed by Anglian Water on planned preventative maintenance (PPM) to help stop any further disruption to service. The foul sewer will be maintained every 9 months, and the surface water sewer every 12-18 months.
- 2.4 Work has also been carried out by Huntingdonshire District Council to clear a flow path through a balancing pond to the east of the pumping station. The clearing of this flow path should allow surface water flows to drain more freely, thereby reducing the risk of surface water flooding.
- 2.5 In addition, Anglian Water is also surveying the sewer that runs from Stilton to Main Street to assess whether any improvements are required in order to further reduce the risk of sewer flooding. This has resulted in manholes being repaired in certain areas.

**3.0 LATEST UPDATE**

- 3.1 Anglian Water have given a further update in July on the sewerage system in Yaxley. They state:

“Short term mitigation for two blocks of terraced properties in Main Street with shared laterals is being investigated. This was originally looked at last year and is now being looked at again. The proposal is to lay a new surface water sewer with Non Return Valves to take the roof water from the affected properties which was going into the combined system. One of my colleagues was out there yesterday and discussed the proposals with a number of the residents, who seem happy that work was progressing. A risk is that the sewer will have to be laid in their back gardens, so we'll need agreement from all the

residents. Further work is required to make this happen, but we're hopeful it can be completed this financial year.

A permanent solution is also being considered for Main Street. However, cost benefit analysis has yet to be completed for this work, and with only 2 properties flooding internally, we may struggle to make this scheme stack up. This is being looked at presently so we should have more information in due course.

- 3.2 These improvements should help the properties on Main Street that have been suffering flooding and loss of toilet facilities.
- 3.3 One problem that still exists is the fact that Anglian Water do not accept responsibility for the maintenance of the surface water balancing pond off Mere View. This is an integral part of the sewerage system and has public sewers going into and out off it. However the land was never transferred to Anglian Water by the developer who has now gone into liquidation. The land has transferred to the Crown. With no maintenance, the pond is silting up removing the balancing volume and causing backing up in the sewer and possible flooding. The fencing is also broken leaving gaps for children to access this area. Letters have been written to AW but with no positive response. This will be pursued again.

#### **4.0 FUTURE ACTIONS**

- 4.1 As a result of the Panel's interest in the problems and the meeting with Anglian Water, action has been taken in Yaxley which has improved the situation.
- 4.2 Residents in Yaxley (and in other locations affected by flooding) must be encourage to report any flooding they experience to Anglian Water and to the Cambridgeshire County Council Flood Team so that they all recorded. Only with all incidents on record, will Anglian Water respond to problems. The local members and parish council can help to get this message across to affected residents.
- 4.3 It is not expected that further updates on this problem will be made to this Panel.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report on work carried out at Yaxley by Anglian Water Services for the Huntingdonshire District Council Overview and Scrutiny (Environmental Well-Being) Panel.

Report by the Drainage Working Group to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) held on 9th October 2012.

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