Weston Green – Surface Water - Post Flooding 29 December 2020

Report Author – Andrew Durham on behalf of Councillor Bridget Durham

Introduction

On 29th December 2020 Councillor Durham and the report's author inspected the areas covered by the previous report of 23rd December. This is therefore a snapshot of the situation on 29 December 2020.

Summary

Stour Brook - Uneven flow on 23rd December through pipes and arches downstream of the road culvert between No.72 and "Thoresby" had suggested that some might be obstructed. In fact there is only a minor obstruction to one of the bridge arches at College Farm.

On 23rd December the flow through the pipes under the road in front of "The Three Horseshoes" suggested that one pipe may be obstructed. Inspection on 29th December revealed an even flow exiting through both pipes. It is likely that the uneven flow was due to vegetation and planting on the Three Horseshoes' side of the stream, which narrows the channel and partially obstructs one of the pipes.

Inspection of Chapel Road's ditches and pipes revealed the following:

1. On 23rd December the ditch on the south (Chapel) side was surcharged at the Chapel and water was running across and down the road to flood the junction at the "Old Forge". We could now see that the pipe at the Chapel is almost completely obstructed by brambles and vegetation. At the other end of the pipe (adjacent to the entrance to Pound Farm Barns), the pipe is almost entirely covered by leaves/silt and the ditch in front of Pound Farm needs to be cleared. If the pipes and ditch were cleared and the flow restored on the South side, much of the problem down the North side of Chapel Road might be solved.

2. On 23rd December the ditch on the north (Jubilee Farm) side of Chapel Road was surcharged at the access to Jubilee Farm but not immediately downstream, suggesting the pipe under the access was either too small or obstructed. Inspection on 29th December indicates that the pipe is silted but another problem is that the ditch immediately downstream of the access is silted up outside No.50. The pipe and ditch should be cleared.

3. On 23rd December the ditch was surcharged at the point where the ditch ends just before the bungalows suggesting that the piped drain beyond that point was either too small or obstructed. However, it was noted that there is at least one drain running away from Chapel Road (to the North) at No.48 to join the drainage ditch behind the houses and it was thought there may be more such pipes. On 29th December we could see another pipe running to the North at Jubilee Farm.

Post war development has almost certainly seen a number of ditches piped and if these pipes are not clear and if the drainage channel running adjacent to Chapel Road (behind the houses) is not clear, then it is likely that the problems along Chapel Road will continue. It is suggested that landowners on the North side of Chapel Road be encouraged to check that pipes running South to North under their properties and any ditches running West to East at the rear of the properties are all clear.

Weston Green – Surface Water Post-Flooding Inspection on 29 December 2020

N.B. This report is only a snapshot of the situation as at 29 December 2021

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Location: Footpath 12 at point where water enters pipes in front of "Three Horseshoes"
Pipes were surcharged on 23rd and look silted. One pipe had noticeably more flow suggesting obstruction by planting.

Location: Three Horseshoes – exit from pipes in front of Three Horseshoes.

Location: Culvert by Reading Room.

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Location: Ditch at Chapel on South side where flow goes into pipe running along Chapel Road is blocked by vegetation

Location: Pound Farm
Ditch is blocked with silt.

Location: Outside Pound Farm.
East end of the South side pipe running along Chapel Rd is blocked and ditch silted.

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Location: Looking East along Chapel Road just before Jubilee Farm. Ditch needs clearing?

Location: Jubilee Farm – one of the pipes running North presumably into the drainage channel that runs on the North side of the old 1940's allotments.

Location: Ditch on North side Chapel Road at point where it ends outside "Greenacres" / "Paddocks"

Location: Pipe & ditch silted outside No.50

Drainage pipe across Chapel Road from the South side into the North side ditch – evidence of general drainage to northern drainage channels?

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