Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Full Council 09/11/2023

Foudry Brook

Agenda item 23/089 10: To receive an update and a report, and resolve that the Council writes to:

- a. Thames Water with a copy of the report and seeking further information.
- b. Sir John Redwood MP and West Berkshire Council with a copy of the report and letter sent to Thames Water.

BACKGROUND

Discharges into Foudry Brook were discussed at the full Council meeting of 8th June 2023. The minute states:

Foudry Brook: To receive an update and resolve:

- a. That SMPC write to Thames Water as stated in the recommendation.
- b. That a copy of the letter to Thames Water also be sent with appropriate covering letters to the Environment Agency and Sir John Redwood MP.

Cllr. Dennett confirmed there had been 105 days of discharge between 01/09/2022 and 31/03/2023. Thames Water are updating Burghfield and Mortimer systems at a cost of £17,000,000 and £1,000,000 respectively. A meeting has been held with Action for the River Kennet (ARK) and a meeting is shortly being held with Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP). The recommendation is for the Council to write to Thames Water requesting a copy of their consent to discharge, information on the maximum rates of discharge of the current equipment, more detail on the proposed upgrade and the estimated effect of the upgrade on discharge frequency. It was noted that copies of letters should also be sent to WBC.

Cllr. Dennett proposed the resolution as above.

Seconded by Cllr. Lock.

Resolved unanimously.

The recommendations have been carried out with the exception of the letters to Sir John Redwood MP and WBC. After the meeting with WASP, it became clear that stronger letters could be written when some of the above information had been received and further analysis undertaken. An accompanying paper (23-089 10.1 Storm Discharges into Foudry Brook) summarises the issues, the further information, and the analyses. The resolution proposes that the letters are now sent and copied to Thames Water along with the accompanying report.

Cllr. Dennett 02/11/2023