

## **GREAT SANKEY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Record of events concerning the proposed flood measures at Lingley Green**

**July 2008** United Utilities carry out bore hole tests on Lingley Green to see if it is suitable for use for a tank for anti flooding measures

**1st September 2008** UU contact Clerk by phone asking to address the Council about the tank before planning permission is sought.

**25<sup>th</sup> September 2008** meeting between Paul Bishop and Tony Clinton UU and some members of the Council. Cllr Lee summarises the meeting in a report, which the Council considered at the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October. There was general agreement about doing something about the flooding problem, but Council were waiting for consultation and planning application.

**30<sup>th</sup> October** UU set up a mobile visitor centre at Jireh Church. It is open in the late afternoon/early evening of that day (3 or 4 hours). Councillors begin to receive expressions of concern from residents.

**30<sup>th</sup> October** UU write to serve notice upon the Council to use Lingley Green, and also send a form seeking written permission to start work before the end of the notice period.

**31<sup>st</sup> October** UU apply for planning permission.

**31<sup>st</sup> October** Council set up meeting with UU and public – scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> November 2008. WBC planners are invited but decline to attend.

Between 31<sup>st</sup> October and 12<sup>th</sup> November it emerges that the land has Village Green status and Clerk researches what she can about this – enquiries are made to Chalc, SLCC, DEFRA, the Planning Inspectorate (Commons and Green Protection team). All are aware of the legislation that protects village greens, none are aware of any case law by which Water regulations take precedence over that legislation.

**10<sup>th</sup> November** signs go up warning of sewer work about to start on 24<sup>th</sup> November

**12<sup>th</sup> November** meeting is held, attended by UU, Parish Councillors and members of the public.

**12<sup>th</sup> November** at the Parish Council meeting, later that day, the Parish Council resolves not to give permission to start work on the Green, to support flood measures and to encourage UU to consider alternative solutions. The Council also resolves to object to the associated planning application (2008/13848).

**13<sup>th</sup> November** letter sent to the UU reps who attended meeting to relay the Council decision. Also Council objection to planning application 2008/13848 sent. Cllr Roy Smith also sent in a planning objection.

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**17<sup>th</sup> November** letter sent to CEO of UU to convey Council decision and inform him of Village green status. Clerk contacts Ofwat for advice, as there has been no acknowledgement from UU to earlier letters

Signs about roadworks are still in place.

**19<sup>th</sup> November** Clerk gets return call from Ofwat and explains the position. Ofwat rep says she will phone UU to see what is happening.

**20<sup>th</sup> November** Mr Clinton and Mr Bishop both phone to say that the work is not going ahead, Mr Clinton mentions contact from Ofwat.

**25<sup>th</sup> November** Council write to CEO of UU asking what alternative sites were considered, what consultation took place and what sites might be considered now.

**1<sup>st</sup> December** Council write to Borough Solicitor asking for advice on whether Water regulations take precedence over village green protection legislation or vice versa

**28<sup>th</sup> November** residents meet. They write to Council. Residents are united in wanting a proper sewerage system in place, that is acceptable to the whole community, and request a meeting with all parties concerned to find a satisfactory solution.

**2<sup>nd</sup> December** UU write to suggest a meeting with the Parish Council, but the suggested meeting is not acceptable, due to shortage of time. Council will seek to set up a meeting which is suitable.

**10<sup>th</sup> December** Parish Council have presentation from UU on flood measures for other parts of Great Sankey. Later a smaller group of Councillors is delegated to take the issue forward.

**18<sup>th</sup> December** Working group of Councillors due to meet with Mr Boyer to take advice on how best to move on the issue. A meeting with UU and then residents will then be set up.