

## Operation Watershed – Interim Response

### Response

Operation Watershed Active Communities Fund evaluation process incorporates Drainage & Highways Colleagues' oversight and feedback on the technical aspect of any application that is submitted to the grant fund.

As well as using the technical section on the evaluation form they also have to consider what the application is proposing in relation to the Highway drainage assets including if it is suitable and need to consider ongoing maintenance. In essence it is obtaining WSCC Highways consent to undertake the work similar to you would a riparian or land owner consent.

Please see the feedback from our Drainage & Highways Colleagues after considering both Original Scheme application and Variant Scheme application.

### Feedback on Highways Drainage element of Slindon Parish Council – Slindon Pond Application Variant Scheme

"The presented jetting and CCTV report, that 'Price & Myers' have based much of their report on, does not show the true case, i.e. root ingress, prior to jetting. Thus, it is believed, giving a false picture that 'Price & Myers' have taken as the 'current' situation.

The 'Price & Myers' report plays down the issue of root ingress into the pipe network, stating that little root ingress can be seen from the CCTV survey. This is because, as stated in the parish council report dated 31.03.2021, all the root ingress that could be removed during the jetting and CCTV work had been removed, leaving only the 'overflow' completely blocked with roots.

The 'Price & Myers' report goes on to state that local patch lining will deal with the issue of root ingress that remains after the jetting and CCTV work was completed. However, this is not the case as it would appear that far more root was removed from the system and therefore more lining would be required to completely seal the pipes against further root infestation. It should be noted, as stated by Paul Cann Arun DC Drainage Engineer, that lining will not seal the manholes and gullies which will remain a point of future weakness within the system, should the willow tree remain.

Both the willow tree and the existing highway drainage are positioned at the low spot in Church Hill. Therefore, the repositioning of the highway drainage and outfall is not an option.

The summary and conclusions of the 'Price & Myers' report states:

Bullet point 4 – 'pipe lining in the concrete will further prevent roots from entering the pipes'. As 'Price & Myers' appear to only be proposing patch lining this will not be the case unless the entire section of pipe is lined. The jetting and CCTV survey removed most of the roots within these pipes prior to the CCTV survey work, hence the belief that only patch lining is required.

Bullet point 5 – 'the existing catchpit manhole, new manhole, overflow pipe and headwall will provide a barrier between RG1 and the willow tree'.

During the jetting and CCTV survey roots were removed from the section of pipe between RG1 and the existing manhole. As the existing structures do not form a barrier between RG1 and the willow tree there can be no guarantee that the new structures will either.

Bullet point 6 – 'risk of blockage from tree roots from the willow tree is low'

30 July 2021

This cannot be the case. The presented jetting and CCTV report does not show the true case, i.e. root ingress, prior to jetting. Thus, it is believed, giving a false picture that 'Price & Myers' have taken as the 'current' situation.

WSSC have tried to deal with the issue of root ingress at this location over the years. Each attempted repair has resulted in the roots returning within years".

Highways, Transport and Planning have therefore supported the Parish Council's original design, which has now reached the final stage with a decision is expected within the next few weeks.

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## Technical Evaluation

Technical Evaluation	
<i>Drainage Strategy &amp; Maintenance</i>	Project likely to deliver <i>local</i> benefit
	Project addresses recognised surface or ground water flood risk
<i>Meet at least one of the following elements in its technical scope</i>	Project scope proportional to desired outcomes
	Project costs represent accepted Value for Money
	Project unlikely to cause domino issues
	Provide new infrastructure installations or build
	Make material change improvements to existing infrastructure
	Increase the drainage capacity of existing infrastructure
	Provision of assets for community groups usage to protect their local area