

## **AN UPDATE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL REGARDING THE ONGOING THAMES WATER SITUATION IN STANDLAKE 20 February 2020**

The Parish Council remains in regular contact with Thames Water regarding the situation in Standlake. Unfortunately the continuous rain patterns, Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis means water levels remain high resulting in increased tanker activity and a delay in starting remedial works.

Thames Water has identified a number of manholes along Rack End and Woodlands which are suffering from infiltration and will require sealing. In terms of where the infiltration is getting into the sewer itself, this requires lining work. Thames Water has started to receive quotes from their chosen contractors for the work and are progressing this further. Thames Water still has further surveying work to complete in respect of this. Standlake remains high on the Thames Water agenda and further updates will be provided as soon as possible.

Thames Water is in contact with Oxfordshire County Council regarding the situation in Woodlands and is awaiting further information from them to understand their surface water system to help provide the full picture.

The Parish Council also shared with Thames Water the concerns of a number of residents who had had it reported that pumps had failed in the pumping stations. Thames Water has *'assured there are no problems with the pumps at any of the pumping stations in Standlake'* and that *'the actual issue is infiltration of ground and surface water into the foul water network which is overloading the system hence having to use tankers to relieve the system. The system has capacity to deal with normal sewage and grey water from baths, sinks, washing machines etc'*.

Oxfordshire County Councillor Charles Mathew has arranged a meeting with Robert Courts on the 20<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the issue of sewage and flooding in the area. The invitation has been extended to a number of the local Parish Councils. The Chairman, Brian Parnham, and Clerk, David Bevan, will attend this meeting representing Standlake and report back as appropriate.

Brian is keeping in regular contact with Thames Water to keep the pressure on and is keeping Robert Courts M.P updated along with Charles Mathew and West Oxfordshire Cabinet Member for Environment, Norman MacRae. It is appreciated and understood the frustration, inconvenience and annoyance of the situation we are all experiencing and the Parish Council will provide further updates as available.

19<sup>th</sup> February 2020