

Update on what's happened recently with regard to the culvert leading to the River Severn from the A40 and a few secondary items.

National Highways have completed their survey of the culvert to the river and a report is being generated by their drainage team.

The inspection didn't reveal any failures so the culvert is now confirmed clear from the start at Popes Pool cottages to the culvert exit by the river. Again, thanks to Steve and Nige for getting this sorted.

We are now at a stage where two main actions are outstanding.

The first is to ensure that the 30 meter ditch between the culvert outlet and the sluice gate is maintained to prevent silt build up inside the culvert in future.

I'm hoping we can firm something up here with interested parties soon.

The second is monitoring future heavy rainfall situations and recording any flooding issues to feed back to National Highways if it has an impact on the A40.

Other items ongoing with National Highways are as follows:

Flooding across from Linton Lodge to Linton Farm before the Highnam lights heading Eastbound is being assessed by flood and drainage teams within National Highways. A report is being produced and recommendations will follow.

The flooding at Two Mile lane is still on the list, I believe Cllr Mclain has been progressing things there in collaboration with GCC.

Flooding at Highnam traffic lights on the B2415 is being handled between Gloucester Highways (the asset owners) and National Highways who installed some of the infrastructure during renovations.

Much like the work on the culvert to the river, this is now being looked at by local managers with meetings being planned to look further into it.

We had a flood wardens meeting in March where the Environment Agency gave reasons why the warnings on the Severn were quite different to the actual outcome.

Briefly, the EA had good cause for concern as many models in the worst case supported the warnings they gave.

As with many predictions, things can change quickly and this was the case with storm Eunice. The storm headed further south than expected and this resulted in the south and London getting the brunt of the damage.

EA are looking at the wording of the warnings given as they are aware in hindsight that comparing the levels to 2007 caused more alarm than was potentially helpful.

As always, its a case of balance, and not always an easy thing to get right.

That's all from me for now. I'll post an update if I have any news to report.

Councillor Rees Keene
Snow and Flood Representative