



## **LYNEHAM FLOOD REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Background**

Although no properties in Lyneham applied for a flooding grant in July 2007, the roads were reported as flooded, in addition to 4 occasions in January, May, June and September 2008. The areas within the village that have been reported as experiencing problems are:-

- In the area of the culvert under the road north of the entrance to Lyneham Farm cottages.
- In the area of the culvert under Priory Lane, half way between High Street and Priory Road.
- In the area of the culvert under the road 40m north of the eastern end of Priory Road.
- In the area of the culvert under the road running north – south at the junction where it meets the High St and The Leys.
- In the area of the culvert under the High Street, between Stable House and Izod's Farm.

The cause of the flooding has been suggested as blockages in the already undersized culverts. It has been reported that when the culverts are unable to handle the quantity of water, it backs up into the roadside ditches which then overflow onto the carriageway up to a depth of 300mm on both sides of the streams. The flood water reportedly gets into the main sewer and surcharges out of the manholes, ending up in the watercourses and causing localised pollution issues.

- The railway bridge was also flooded in July 2007 to a depth of about 1200mm when the aperture under the bridge became blocked and could not take flood water away from the nearby stream and River Evenlode.
- The 2 streams through the village also contributed to the flooding due to lack of maintenance and the volume of water involved. They flooded the roads for about 25m in both directions at the culvert locations where they overflowed.
- A Southern Electric cable was found to be obstructing the watercourse on the west side of High St, north of "Brookfield".
- A water supply pipe was found to be obstructing the watercourse on the east side of High St, north of "Brookfield".

During visual surveys carried out with the Chairman of Lyneham Parish Meeting, a number of other probable causes for flooding in other areas of the village have come to light, which include:-

- Lack of maintenance to highway gullies, preventing surface water from escaping, e.g. in The Leys, High Street and Priory Road.
- Lack of maintenance to verge grips along Priory Lane, preventing the surface water from entering the roadside ditches.
- Lack to maintenance to roadside ditches throughout the village, e.g. Priory Lane
- Lack of maintenance to watercourses in the village running east – west at the northern and southern ends of the village.
- Lack of maintenance to culvert entrances, e.g. opposite Lyneham Farm Cottages.
- Lack of maintenance to the large pond adjacent to Lyneham Farm Cottages.
- Surface water runoff from the fields onto the roads due to the absence of field / roadside drainage ditches, e.g. south of The Leys.

#### **Maintenance works that have been carried out to date, believed to have been undertaken in 2009**

- Clearance of the pond adjacent to Lyneham Farm Cottages.
- Clearance of the 2 watercourses running east-west through the village.
- Clearance of the watercourse between west end of High Street and Wychwood Golf Club.
- Clearance of the ditch and culvert grid on the north side of The Leys.

This work needs to be carried out on a regular basis by the riparian owners. The riparian owner of The Leys ditch cleared the grid after a site meeting with WODC, OCC and the Chairman of Lyneham Parish Meeting in August 2009, and has agreed to inspect and clear it on a regular basis.

- The flooding in the High Street has been alleviated by the laying of a new pipe across the Izod's Farm and Upper Farm land, which discharges into the watercourse to the south. This carries the water collected by the culvert passing under the road and the highway gullies in High Street. It is evident that the end of the pipe where it discharges into the ditch will need to be kept clear by the riparian ditch owner by further periodic maintenance.

## **Remedial works still required**

- Unblocking of highway gullies by OCC in Priory Road, High Street, and the road between the eastern ends of Priory Road and High Street.
- Reinstatement of verge grips by OCC in Priory Lane.

OCC agreed to add these works to their regular maintenance programme in June 2009, in addition to the gully on the southern side of The Leys, at the crossroads. They have informed WODC that they have cleared some of the gullies on an annual basis since 2009, but it appears there are some they have not yet attended to. They have confirmed that the verge grips have not yet been recut, and so WODC have again made the request, in October 2011, for them to undertake this work.

The following work needs to be carried out by the riparian owners:-

- Removal / diversion of the Southern Electric cable from the watercourse on the west side of High St, north of "Brookfield".
- Removal of the water supply pipe from the watercourse on the east side of High St, north of "Brookfield".

The following work needs to be carried out on a regular basis by the riparian owners:-

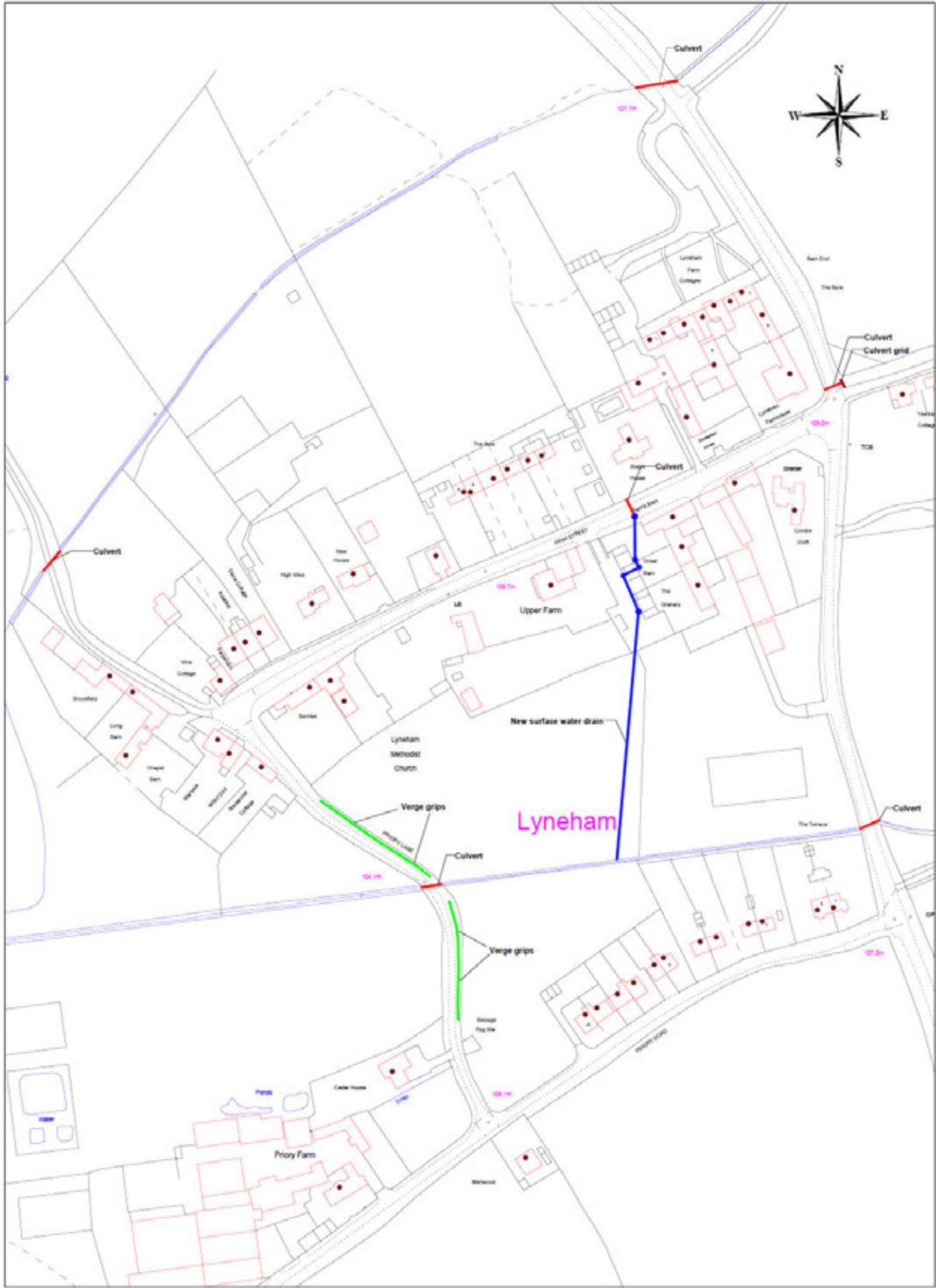
- Clearance of roadside ditches within the village.
- Clearance of the watercourse in the area of the railway bridge and around the aperture under the bridge.

## **Possible additional works**

- Creation of a new field ditch by the landowner on the east side of the road south of the Leys. The landowner has been approached about this and had no objection to the work being carried out if somebody else constructs and maintains it. There is no legal requirement for him to carry out the work himself.
- Creation of a new field ditch by the landowner on the south side of the Leys. Again, there is no legal duty for him to carry out the work himself.

**Appendix A – Map**

The map on the following page indicates the location of existing road culverts and verge grips in Lyneham. The location of a new surface water drain is also mapped.



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Map Title:	Road culverts, verge grips and new surface water drain in Lyneham
Department:	
Map No:	
Date: 07:10:11	Scale: 1:1600

**Appendix B - Photographs**



Photograph of the pond near the golf course; last cleared March 2010



Existing southern electric pipe obstructing flow of ditch



Existing services pipe from Maricote obstructing ditch



Highway drainage on High Street, Lyneham



Culvert grid at The Leys, Lyneham March 2009



Upstream of the Priory Lane culvert March 2009



Priory Lane culvert June 2009