



Terms of Reference

Flood Working Group – G&E Meeting 5th March 2026

Purpose: Advisory group to inform and potentially make proposals to the Parish Council via G&E Committee on issues of flood incidences in the parish. Monitor risk in the parish and the potential solutions and make recommendations for future action.

Membership: Interested Council members (min 3 No), West Sussex County Councillor, Mid Sussex Councillors, plus potential co-opted community representatives with relevant experience and local knowledge, such as Ouse & Arun Rivers Trust, Greener Hassocks & Ditchling

Key Responsibilities:

- Implementing actions for future natural flood management measures on publicly owned land, including Parklands Copse.
- Implementing actions for other measures to control surface water runoff.
- Implementing and/or supporting protection measures for businesses and residents most at risk of flooding, and options for funding these.
- Actively leading on Riparian Rights/Responsibilities for landowners within the parish.
- Actively liaise and collaborate with WSCC on the implementation of the Hassocks Surface Water Plan – 2016.
- Liaise with Greener Hassocks & Ditchling/OART to further the implementation of mitigation measures.

Meetings: Ad hoc, as and when considered necessary to address current circumstances.

Non exhaustive Examples:

- The organisation of additional street cleaning during leaf fall season
- Setting up a volunteer group to manage gullies in addition to any contractor arrangements.
- Riparian Rights & Responsibilities
- Update and distribution of the Riparian Responsibilities booklet.
- The lobbying of WSCC and MSDC to ensure their responsibilities in relation to flood management continue to be fulfilled.

Powers: No executive authority or budget. Advisory role only reporting to G&E Committee.