

Update re Lake End Common Flooding and Dorney Common Flooding

Bill Dax - 13 September 2023

1. Lake End Common Flooding:

- a. **Emails to Thames Water (DWTW) and William Emmett (Water Table) from Parish Clerk**
 - i. See Appendix A - Drafted suggested emails, sent to Parish Clerk on 16 August 2023, following up on Recommendations.
 - ii. Not aware of any responses to date.
- b. **Roundmoor Ditch Blockages and Recommendations:**
 - i. Environment Agency checked Lake End Road Culvert and checked and cleared Jubilee River Culvert – July 2023.
- c. **Groundwater Levels (Water Table)**
 - i. BD requested Bray Borehole (nearest monitored borehole) data from 2014 to date from EA to establish groundwater levels in area over period.
 1. Still waiting for data.

2. Dorney Common Flooding

- a. John Halsey managed to obtain copy of Cain Hydrology Report (April 2022). Deals exclusively with Dorney Common Flooding.
- b. **Summary of Conclusions/Recommendations:**
 - i. North Ditch (along Common from Manor Farm towards Manor Weir) appears to be the primary source of flooding, followed by Roundmoor Ditch after Slough Sewage Works excessive discharges:
 1. *[Cain] Further survey should be obtained for the North Ditch and introduced to the model to confirm previously suspected flow connectivities. This would significantly improve visualisation of flooding on the Dorney Common.*
 - ii. Approx. 50% of flow into Roundmoor Ditch after Slough Sewage Works is unexplained.
 1. *[Cain] Borehole information and inflow data to Slough STW are obtained to investigate the issue of unaccounted flows as this might have implications on the design of the preferred option.*
 2. Some of this flow may be from the Dorney Water Treatment Works at Taplow. To be established at requested meeting with Thames Water.
 - iii. Preferred Option:
 1. *[Cain] Channel maintenance of the Roundmoor Stream/Boveney Ditch is brought forward as the preferred option, in conjunction with targeted re-profiling [of banks alongside Eton Wick].*
- c. As the flooding on Dorney Common has no impact on Dorney Parish residents, I suggest that DPC leave the Dorney Common Management Committee to manage the issue and keep DPC advised as necessary.

APPENDIX A

Draft emails for Parish Clerk:

2.b.i.4. Recommendation: DPC writes to TW advising of the apparent link between DWTW discharges and Lake End Common (and Dorney Common) flooding to see how such significant discharges can be reduced in volume. (Also see TW responsibility re clearing Roundmoor Ditch within the SSTW curtilage).

To: customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk

Dear Thames Water

Subject: Flooding Impact of the discharges from the Dorney Water Treatment Works 2020/2022/2023

It has been brought to the attention of Dorney Parish Council that it appears highly probable that significant discharges of wastewater from the Dorney Water Treatment Works (DORNW1ZZ) into Roundmoor Ditch are, on occasions, causing significant flooding of Lake End Common, SL4 6QS, which is approx. 1,250 metres south of the DWTW.

Further to a Freedom of Information request Ref. EIR-23-24-216 from a resident the following information was obtained from the datasets you supplied:

Dorney WTW Discharge Volumes					
From	To	Days	Total litres	litres/day	Olympic Swimming Pools (2,500,000 litres)
03-Jul-20	02-Sep-20	61	59,768,050	979,804	24
10-Mar-22	04-Apr-22	25	28,251,395	1,130,056	11
26-May-23	12-Jul-23	47	56,360,669	1,199,163	23
Source: Thames Water 14 July 2023					

Note: the current discharge is probably still operating.

All of these above dates coincide with significant flooding issues on Lake End Common.

In July this year, similar flooding approached the back gardens of the houses in Ashford Lane when DWTW was discharging into Roundmoor Ditch.

Through the [Environment Agency's infrastructure database](#) we checked whether the culvert taking the Roundmoor Ditch water under Lake End Road (Asset ID: 42904) might be blocked – and, as you can see, it was recently inspected (21JUN23) and found to be clear. Also the culvert taking Roundmoor Ditch (Asset ID: 110689) under the Jubilee River which is approx. 1,500 metres east of Lake End Common also appeared to be clear when inspected on 21JUN23.

The conclusion we have come to is that the irregular, significant discharges into Roundmoor Ditch from the DWTW may be a major factor causing the Lake End Common irregular, significant flooding.

We would be most grateful for your comments on these findings and, if the DWTW discharges are a possible cause, to ask you whether it is technically possible to avoid such surges and manage the discharges so that the flow is more regular and can, therefore, be handled by the limited capacity of Roundmoor Ditch to the Thames.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible so that we can provide further information on this to residents.

Regards

Parish Clerk

3.i. Recommendation: DPC asks William Emmett if he can assist with this data.

To: William Emmett

Subject: Groundwater Levels: Monitored Boreholes in Dorney

Dear William

Please find attached a paper recently produced by Bill Dax for Dorney Parish Council regarding the irregular, but persistent flooding on Lake End Common, of which I am sure you are aware.

We would be most interested, given your experience of water issues in the Dorney area, on all of the points raised by Bill – especially Par 3.i. which relates to monitored boreholes near to Lake End Common – or nearer than the monitored borehole at Bray – [Bray Number 1 Obh](#) – south of Bray Marina.

Andy Wiltshire believes that the water table around Dorney has increased significantly (by more than a metre AOD) since the Jubilee River arrived. There is also the discharges from the Dorney Water Treatment Works alongside your land to be considered.

Any further information you can provide on this subject would be very helpful and would assist Dorney Parish Council in keeping our residents advised on this worrying issue.

Best wishes etc

Parish Clerk