

Flood Prevention Meeting: Update Friday 26th April 2024.

Mark Oliver

Land & Property Manager

Cirencester Town Council

Sluice gate monitoring continues at a daily or twice daily rate, depending on weather conditions.

All CTC Grounds staff are fully trained and committed to monitor and maintain the sluice gates and sites at Gloucester Road and Gum Stool Brook along River side walk.

Riparian Partnership

CTC continue to communicate with Bathurst Estate and Old Mill, throughout the year to maintain consistency.

Environment Agency

I keep in contact with James Spicer, EA when required and James has kindly supplied sack trucks and extra sandbags in support of the flood prevention plan (FPP).

CTC have employed the FPP twice late 2023 as water levels were risk assessed and deemed to be at risk of flooding on Hareward Rd. Although a flood did not occur most of the residents seemed reassured at the time.

Thames Water

Dave Edge from TW met onsite recently to organise repair to damage caused by the tankers such as; Broken vehicle barriers, pot holes in road surface, tyre damage to grass kerbs and rubbish left onsite, it is worth remembering that the Abbey ground site is an important ancient monument and should be treated with care.

TW informed me that the penstock onsite was apparently fixed recently is now broken again, however the issue was reported over a year ago and has not been resolved and the tankers are still blocking the entrance. I have asked for a date but have not received an answer and there was no effort to fix the issue throughout the summer months when levels were at their lowest.

Thames Water tankers continue to be stationed at Abbey Grounds main entrance which is severely effecting operations for CTC operations, deliveries and other contractors and the public are greatly affected by the blocked entrance while we are forced to use a pedestrian access point for vehicles, with obvious hazards attached. I have raised the risks with TW asking for an alternative arrangement to allow us access the entrance.

As TW are onsite for longer periods and more frequently, I would like TW to deliver a long-term solution to remove the issue and indirect risks and inconvenience to park users and visitors to the Town.

I requested an answer from TW prior to the meeting and in time for a response before I wrote and sent my notes, I have not received a response.

Communication with TW has improved in the last couple of years but only to a point, I am still surprised that TW seem to enter sites without the courtesy of a call or text message to inform me. I have been told sometimes it's because a manager is on annual leave which is obviously unaccusable.

End.