

HAWKWELL BROOK

Report on flooding issues for the Flood Forum following a site visit on 21/7/2021.

Jeff Stacey Emergency Planning Business Continuity Officer Rochford District Council

1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the site visit was to examine the reports of flood risk in Hawkwell to understand the links and seek a connected solution.

The reports below all relate to Hawkwell Brook. This is a main watercourse arising in Hockley Woods, flowing through Hawkwell to Rochford at Ironwell Lane. As a main watercourse, the Environment Agency have a lead role.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

To check the maintenance schedule with the Environment Agency.

To discuss the leaky dams in Hockley Woods to slow the flow.

To discuss on increasing capacity in Belchamps.

To consider a further site visit after heavy rainfall to identify any problem areas.

To check on RDC responsibility for the culvert at Woodside Chase.

To seek an update on questions on the SUDS for the Hall Lane development.

To record the information in an updated report.

3 BELCHAMS SCOUT CAMP

The brook runs through the campsite and early in the year has been flooding. This appears to down to the volume of water during heavy rain. The brook is kept clear by the site owners, but there may be potential to increase the capacity.



4 WOODSIDE CHASE/ELMWOOD AVENUE

As the brook runs out of the camp site there is a channel running alongside a path which goes underground near the junction of Woodside Chase and Elmwood Avenue. There was a report of rubbish being dumped, but it was clear when I visited. (I have records indicating that this stretch is a Rochford District Council responsibility – to be checked by land search)

The Brook emerges at Main Road and runs between gardens, under the road at Thorpe Close, then across the Country Park to Clements Hall Way. The brook was observed to be clear with no visible obstructions.





**Flood Advisory Group
Hawkwell Brook Report 2**

1 November 2021

5 CLEMENTS HALL WAY

The brook runs along the edge of the Clements Hall Leisure Centre and then into farm land. It was observed to be clear of obstruction, the only dumping being a bicycle. Reports of flooding implicate run off from the Christmas Tree Estate, but there were no obvious signs that this is the case.



6 IRONWELL LANE

The Brook passes under Rectory Road, past Hawkwell Hall Farm before picking up Ironwell Lane. Concerns have been expressed about the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) for the Elizabeth Gardens development between Hall Road and Ironwell Road. Drainage from the site is to ditches along Hall Road and swells (shallow ponds) to the East of the development. The swells eventually surcharge into the Brook.

Check on what Planning Enforcement are doing re SUDS.

7 BRADLEY WAY

The Brook completes its route along a culvert near the station and from there into a ditch near Rochford Reservoir. It then links to other main water courses to become the river Roach near the Fire Station.