

NEWCASTLETON VOLUNTEER FLOOD GROUP Meeting on Tuesday 23rd November 2021

Present: Lee Musson, Gillian Scott, Vikki Pounder, Pauline Elliot, John Scott, Jenny Wilson and Duncan Morrison

- It was agreed that Jenny Wilson would be secretary and organise future meetings and communication.
- Members gave a brief overview of their flood experience and any measures that they have put in place to help stop their homes from flooding.
- Duncan Morrison from SBC Flood and Coastal Management team told us about his work and how it involves Newcastleton. He explained the next stage is the outline design which includes the ground investigation study that is coming to completion at the moment. The next stage is 12 weeks of monitoring of ground water and grasses. Newcastleton is in the cycle 2 scheme which is on hold until Scottish Government know how to fund them. It was agreed that one of the group's roles was to communicate with the community what is happening regarding flood planning any constructions.
- Duncan explained that he had just received consultation paper which will look at erosion control, temporary bund, dredging and bridge removal.
- Duncan explained that because the river is on bedrock and that it is not possible to dredge.
- Duncan is going to speak to Tweed Forum about land mapping and the possibility of putting into place natural flood management. The group agreed that we need to get a list of all the landowners up in the catchment areas so we can organise a discussion about NFM.
- Duncan's first priority is to push for a temporary bund which would be 2 rows of dumpy bags made waterproof which would be eventually grassed over.
- Flat valves have been fitted on the drains going into the river which takes the surface rainwater but if in a large flood event they might have to be removed if surface water cannot escape.
- It was agreed that Duncan would come to a community council meeting early next year and feedback on the next stages about temporary measures.
- Next NVFG will take place after 10th January 2022.
- The group will feed back to cc in December.
- Feed back to the public via social media should be kept on a positive note and awaiting Duncan's report.

Minutes by Jenny Wilson